

Workforce and Education Programme

Celebrating Our 2024/25 Successes

Delivery of CMCA's Principles of Cancer Care (PCCP): We successfully delivered PCCP to 253 members of the Supportive and Assistive Cancer Workforce nationally.

The Cancer Academy: As of 31st March 2025, we had 2,725 registered users on The Cancer Academy which has continued to increase.

Showcasing Cancer Care Roles: We supported NHSE and the Liverpool City Region in showcasing over 22 roles in cancer care to 250 Year 10 students during a week-long event at Liverpool University.

Celebration Event: 81 Cancer Support Workers (CSW) attended a celebration event that included patient stories, ACCEND, health inequalities and workshops relevant to their roles.

Workforce Engagement Event: We held our first workforce engagement event in February with over 65 attendees from across all sectors. Attendee feedback will support creation of our education strategy.



ACCEND

For 2025/26, we have widened the scope of ACCEND implementation to include all trusts in Cheshire and Merseyside. This includes providing access to Greater Manchester's ePortfolio for all staff and supporting Lead Cancer Nurses in developing local plans for their workforce.



Inspire the Future NHS Workforce: In July 2025 we participated in a Creating Careers and NHSE event at Chester University, inspiring the future NHS workforce. This event was attended by 70 year 10 students.

An incredible **85%** of students attending our sessions stated they would consider a career in cancer care.

Radiotherapy Focus: We have two Education Advisors working on introducing ACCEND to the radiotherapy workforce. They are collaborating on the national work package delivery and supporting the excellent work of our North West Radiotherapy ODN.

Education Strategy

One of our workforce programme deliverables is to create an education strategy which will be supported and delivered via The Cancer Academy. Stakeholder engagement has been ongoing to ensure the strategy is fit for purpose, reflecting the needs of the workforce and aligning to the aims outlined in the new 10 Year NHS Plan.



Workforce Modelling

Our team has been collaborating with Trusts to produce a comprehensive workforce modelling report, focussing on cancer services teams operating across Cheshire and Merseyside. The report aims to define the core cancer function, describe the current workforce need and include recommendations to support the design of future workforce requirements.



Education Offers

We have recently re-launched The Cancer Academy with our new web provider, featuring an improved look and a slicker user navigation experience.

Collaboration with Lancs and South Cumbria Cancer Alliance: We have joined forces with our colleagues at Lancs and South Cumbria, sharing resources via our Cancer Academy and creating a central place for staff across the North West to access cancer education. The collaboration also focuses on workforce modelling and providing support to their workforce programme. We are excited about this new partnership and the opportunity to work together on workforce initiatives.

HNA Training Package: These have been created to support delivery of HNAs and end of treatment summaries to patients. The packages went live on The Cancer Academy on 6 August 2025.

Collaboration with The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre (CCC): We are collaborating with CCC to create a comprehensive e-learning programme which will focus on immunotherapy toxicities and their management, to address current inequalities in service provision. Management of immunotherapy induced toxicity is variable nationally. This learning package aims to level the playing field, giving patients and staff the information they need to improve patient outcomes and experience.

Introduction to Cancer: We are working on an exciting new e-learning package that will be available later this year via The Cancer Academy.

Level 2 (L2) Psychological Skills (PS): CMCA has commissioned two psychologists to create a L2 PS standardised offer for staff in our region. This work is expected to be completed by October 2025, for more details contact Jen Kelly jennifer.kelly21@nhs.net. The psychologists will also be developing bitesize L2 training to supplement the standardised offer.

Focus on our MDT Coordinators: We have held two fantastic face-to-face events for MDT Coordinators this year, encouraging vital peer support and providing training on useful topics. We welcomed Paul Stacey (Data Liaison Manager NHSE) and the team from Somerset for the day in May, and our September event included facilitated sessions, sharing best practice and building on the training needs of this pivotal workforce.



CMCA has secured funding to continue offering the **Principles of Cancer Care Programme** nationally to the Supportive and Assistive Workforce.

More details on all the above can be found here: <https://www.canceracademy.nhs.uk/>