

# Cancer Services in Sussex during COVID-19: What this means for you.

A polite reminder to please mute yourself  
and turn your video off during this session.  
For any questions, please use the  
electronic chat function.



# Introduction by Chair

Geoffrey Bowden, Healthwatch Brighton and Hove Director and professional broadcaster (Latest TV and Radio Reverb).

# First presenter: Dr Mathew Thomas

Cancer GP lead for East  
Sussex



Presentation  
written in  
collaboration  
with Dr Alex  
Mancey-Barratt,  
a local GP with a  
cancer specialism



# Cancer is a priority

- 50% of us will have a cancer diagnosis during our lifetime
- Most are treatable, 50% of patients survive 10 years from diagnosis (2010) but Breast 75% (2013-17) and Prostate 78% (2013-17).
- Better outcomes if diagnosed and treated early – or even better before disease develops
- GPs have a role in prevention, screening, early diagnosis, living well with and beyond cancer

# ‘2 Week Rule – the background.’

- Since 2005, NHS agreed criteria for urgent pathway to improve rapid diagnosis and to reduce ‘missing’ cancer
- Based on recognition of certain symptoms or signs that are associated with a 5% risk of having cancer and so should be referred for urgent assessment and investigation
- Target set for people to be seen within 2 weeks of GP referral, hence ‘2 Week Wait’ and treatment started within 62 days
- Subsequent refinements in 2015.
- Lower threshold – 3% risk of cancer.
- Now aim for 28 days to diagnosis, from first GP referral.

# Cancer diagnosis during Covid19 (1 of 2)

- 2 week wait pathways are still open.
- GPs and hospitals still want people to report worrying symptoms.
- First contact will be by phone or video link and then face to face if needed (in a 'Covid-protected place').
- New technologies are in place eg skin cancer assessment.
- Discussion about risk of cancer vs catching Covid19 virus via various calculators available to GPs.

# Cancer diagnosis during Covid19 (2 of 2)

## What happens after referral to hospital?

- Again, first contact likely to be by phone or video link
- Subsequent investigations may need to be adjusted – some more risky than others (for staff).
- Undertaken in low risk sites away from main acute medical units.
- If decide to refer for possible cancer, it is important to **accept and keep** appointments.
- Delays/pauses to treatment or investigation are logged.

# What's happening to screening?

- Cervical – Restricted due to Covid19 safety for patient and staff and isolation. Initially risk stratified patients were targeted by Practices. Now letters starting to be sent so please wait for the letter.
- Bowel – Fresh kits are not being sent out at present (paused) until backlog of +ve test patients has been dealt with.
- Breast – Paused whilst the Covid19 safety issues are addressed.



# Working example 1

A 72 year old Asian woman (with poorly controlled Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and a BMI>30) has noticed loose stools for a few weeks.

## Working example 2

55 year old white man (with high blood pressure and BMI>30) has noticed a new mole that has changed in size and shape in the past few months and is itchy.

# Who do I contact?

- Your symptoms have changed or worsened.
- Delay in your first hospital appointment.
- Delay in your first or subsequent investigations in hospital.
- Delay in your first or subsequent treatment.
- Treatment side-effects.
- Worrying hospital letters.



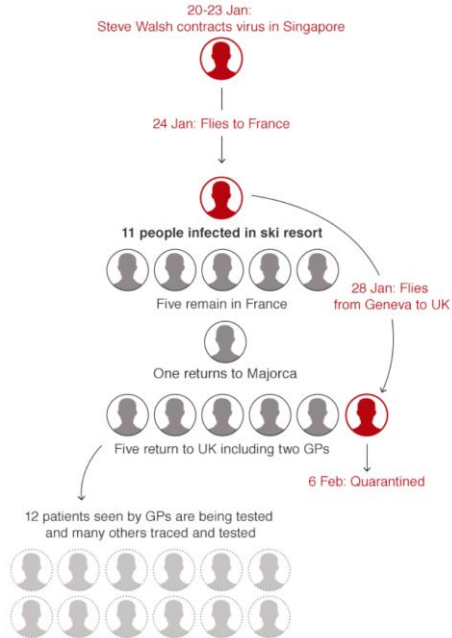
# Dr Richard Simcock

Brighton and Sussex  
University Hospitals NHS  
Trust

Macmillan Consultant Advisor  
@BreastDocUK



## How coronavirus / Covid-19 spread to the UK



\*Two Chinese nationals who tested positive in York are not connected to this case  
Source: PA/BBC research

Mr Walsh, of course, was not the first person in the UK to have been diagnosed with the virus. But the previous two - both Chinese nationals who were in York - had had limited contact with others.



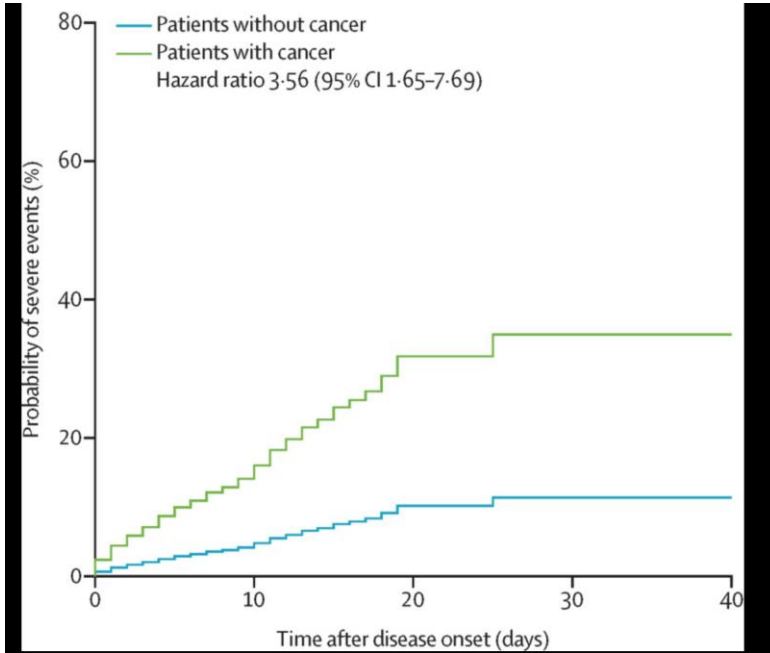
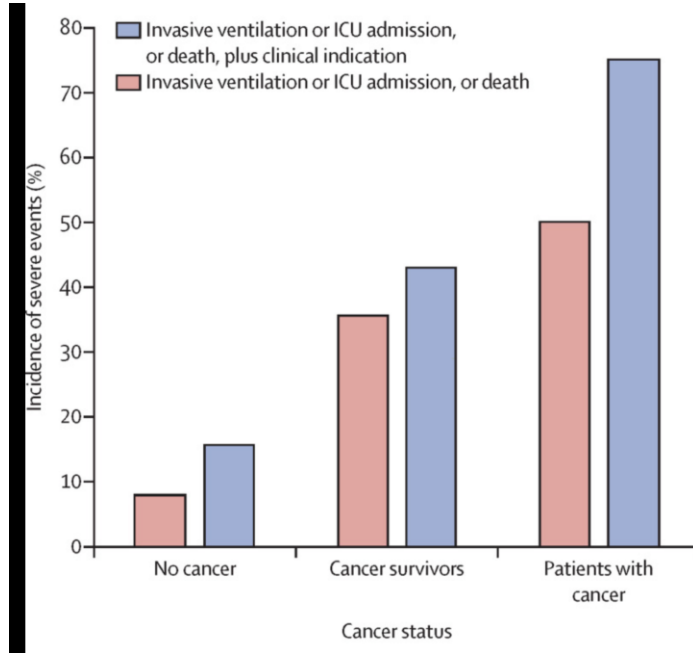
The alarm was raised in the Alps on Friday when people staying at the Saynor family's large chalet (pictured) began to fall ill

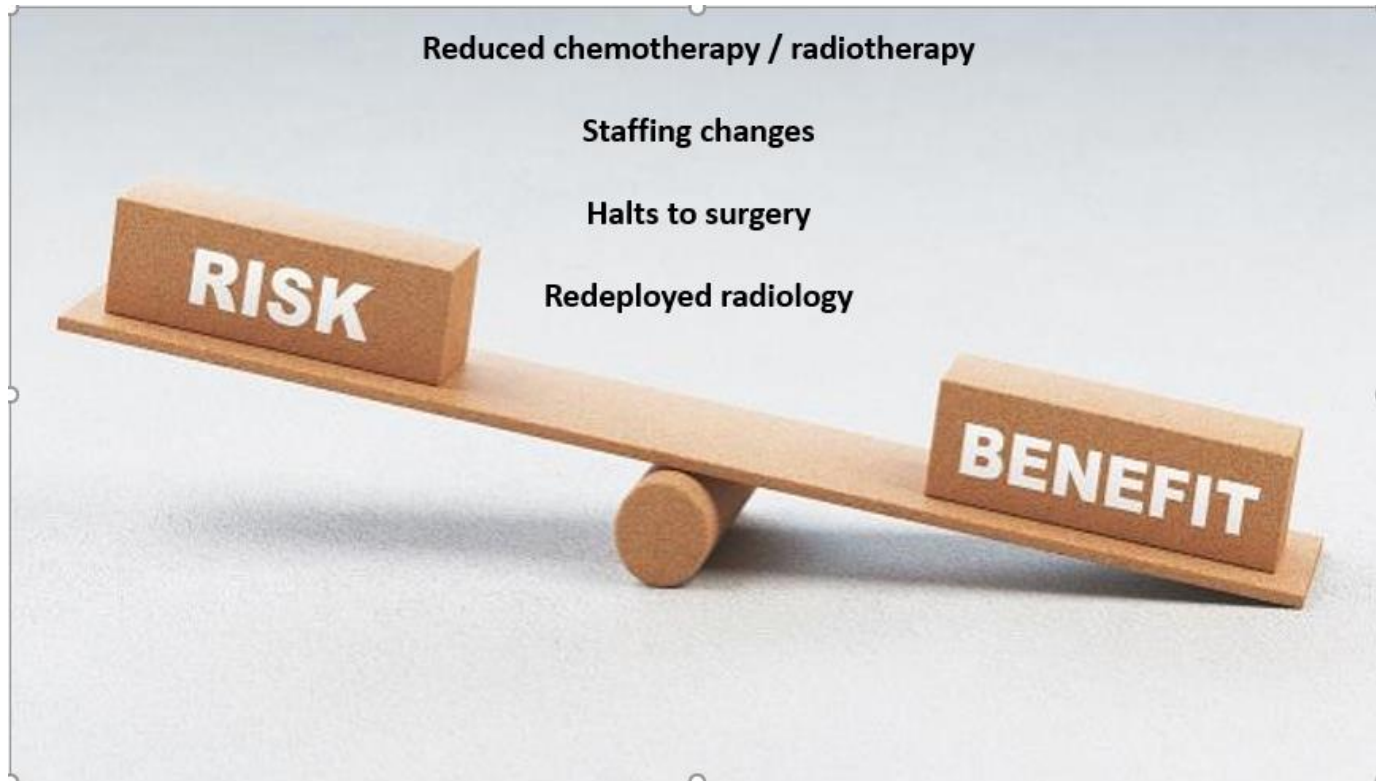
The middle-aged British man - also from Brighton - flew back to the UK where he fell ill and alerted the NHS. He was being treated in St Thomas's Hospital in London last night.



<b>Knowns</b>
Expected cancer caseload
Operational capacity
<b>Known Unknowns</b>
R rate
Risk stratification
Sickness rate
<b>Unknown Unknowns</b>
PPE supply
Testing capacity

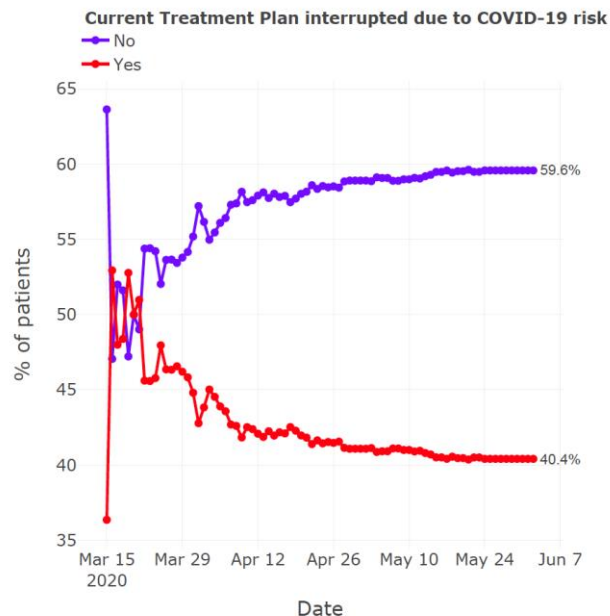
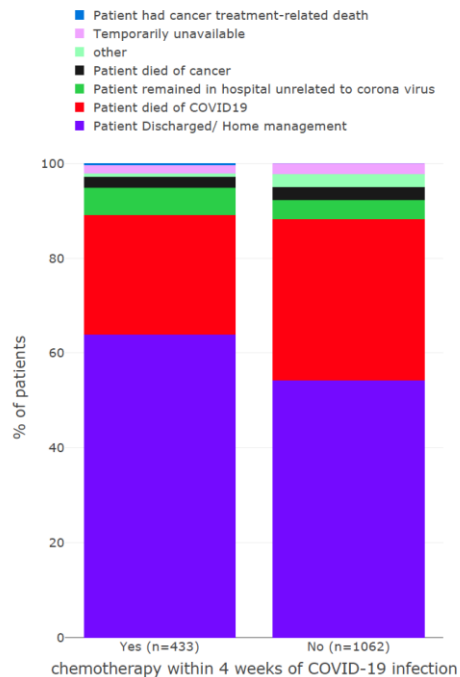
# Data from China







# UK Cancer Covid Monitoring Project



# Current Situation

- Outpatients
- Diagnostics
- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Radiotherapy



# Future

- Surge planning
- The new normal



# Scarlett Jinman-Dunt

Former Oncology nurse, now  
Information & Support Services  
Manager,  
Macmillan Horizon Centre, Brighton.



# THE HORIZON CENTRE



## PHONE SUPPORT

- COUNSELLING
- WELFARE BENEFITS
- INFORMATION & SUPPORT



## VIRTUAL SUPPORT

- HORIZON CONNECT — GROUP SUPPORT SESSION
- MANAGING ANXIETY — GROUP SESSIONS
- ONE TO ONE LIFE COACHING



## VIRTUAL SESSIONS

PILATES    BREATHING WORKSHOP  
YOGA NIDRA    COOKERY    ACUPRESSURE

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND TO BOOK**

**E-MAIL [HORIZONCENTRE@MACMILLAN.ORG.UK](mailto:HORIZONCENTRE@MACMILLAN.ORG.UK) OR CALL 01273 468770**

# MHC Supported Contacts - May 2020

At the Horizon Centre	04-May	11-May	18-May	25-May	TOTAL
Phone Support					
I&S phone calls in	32	34	25	27	118
I&S phone calls out	26	39	15	25	105
Head & Neck Buddy phone calls	2	0	2	0	4
Counselling assessments & other support calls	6	8	5	5	24
Counselling phone appointments	19	24	21	15	79
Welfare Benefits enquiries, one off advice & triage	1	1	1	1	4
Welfare Benefits appointments	6	10	3	4	23
Online Support					
Email support	34	44	22	65	165
Horizon Connect	4	6	5	6	21
Cookery Workshop	5	4	3	2	14
Pilates	5	6	7	0	18
Yoga Nidra	0	4	5	0	9
Acupressure	3	3	3	3	12
Breathing Workshop	2	3	0	0	5
Managing Anxiety	3	3	2	0	8
TOTAL					609

# Macmillan Nationwide

**MACMILLAN HELPLINE: 0808 808 00 00**  
**7 DAYS A WEEK 8AM-8PM**

## PHONE BUDDIES

**ONLINE CORONAVIRUS HUB  
&  
ONLINE COMMUNITY**

**THE FORGOTTEN 'C' CAMPAIGN**

# Participant Questions

Please can we politely ask you to now turn off your video so that we can only see the speakers as they answer questions.