

## Recruitment pathways in the UK early detection initiative (UK-EDI) for pancreatic cancer study

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**INTRODUCTION:** At the time of diagnosis, more than 40% of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) patients have diabetes mellitus (DM). In individuals aged >50 years with DM of <1 year duration, the relative risk of PDAC increases 6-8 fold. New Onset DM (NOD) is thus an early warning sign of PDAC and represents the largest high-risk group for PDAC. To discover biomarkers and develop a targeted screening programme in this population, the establishment of representative, prospective, well characterised cohorts are needed.

**AIMS:** UK-EDI is a Cancer Research UK-funded study that aims to develop a diagnostic test for use in individuals with NOD to identify those most at risk of a diagnosis of PDAC, allowing them to be screened. To do this, a well characterised cohort of 2,500 individuals with NOD will be recruited, and associated biospecimens and clinical data collected.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** Recruitment pathways spanning the primary and secondary care interface to identify individuals representative of NOD within the population have been developed.

**RESULTS:** Secondary care sites identify individuals presenting via emergency admission areas screened for hyperglycaemia and DM is subsequently confirmed with HbA1c. Primary care centres refer individuals with NOD to the nearest secondary care site after screening local electronic records for eligible participants. Biospecimens and clinical data are collected every 6 months over a 24-month follow-up period.

**CONCLUSION:** UK-EDI will develop a bespoke cohort of individuals with NOD, with biospecimens and clinical data annotated, to allow the development of targeted screening for the future early detection of PDAC.