

Collaborative Working Project Executive Summary

Addressing capacity and service delivery challenges in urology and prostate cancer in Greater Manchester through Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) reform.

Project Title

A collaborative Working Agreement between Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance (legal entity The Christie NHS Foundation Trust) and Johnson and Johnson to address capacity and service delivery challenges in urology and prostate cancer in Greater Manchester through Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) reform.

Partner Organisations

Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance, Wilmslow Rd, Manchester M20 4BX.

Johnson and Johnson, 50-100 Holmers Farm Way, High Wycombe HP12 4EG.

Project Rational

The NHS Long Term Plan makes a commitment for earlier diagnosis.

The National Faster Diagnosis Standard (FDS) ensures patients will be diagnosed or have cancer ruled out within 28 days of being referred urgently by their GP for suspected cancer. In Greater Manchester there is an aim to positively impact the 62-day performance metric.

For patients who are diagnosed with cancer, it means their treatment can begin as soon as possible. A key metric in operational performance is the 62-day referral to treatment standard.

Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance have identified that there are inefficiencies in the current Urology/Prostate Cancer MDT process. These inefficiencies give rise to increased patient waiting times, increased backlogs, and inequalities in patient access.

Project Period

Jan 2025 – Dec 2025.

Revised Project Period: March 2025 – March 2026

Project Objectives

- Work Collaboratively with Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance to identify inefficiencies in the current Urology/Prostate Cancer MDT process.
- Help identify and gain agreement MDT reform solutions.
- Assist with the implementation of these MDT reform solutions

Patient Specific: Reduction in time for patients to access appropriate treatments. Improved equity of access to treatment options as well as a clearer pathway of care and improvements in patient experience.

NHS Specific: Greater understanding of the current pathway to MDT and the challenges that occur. Support in process mapping the current processes and writing up clear potential solutions to challenges moving forward. Successful implementation of recommended improvements will help to achieve increased capacity, patient access, improve patient flow, reduce inequalities and backlogs.

Johnson and Johnson company specific: Produce an example of a successful collaboration with the NHS and demonstrate that J&J IM UK collaboration can identify efficiencies, build capacity, improve optimal patient flow, treatment and patient and staff experience. J&J IM UK produce medicines within this therapy area. Identifying ways to improve the current service may lead to increased patient numbers flowing through the system, which may lead to increased appropriate use of J&J IM UK medicines in line with local guidelines.

Resource Allocation

Johnson & Johnson will provide £4950 for venue support

In addition, 134 hours of Johnson & Johnson colleagues' time will be provided to support the project through all stages of delivery from planning to evaluation.

Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance will provide 1738 hours of time to the project.

Contact Details

Johnson and Johnson company: Maria Walsh, Business Unit Director.

Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance: Alison Armstrong, Associate Director.