

UK National Screening Committee
Screening for bladder cancer in adults
15 July 2020

Aim

1. To ask the UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) to make a recommendation, based on the evidence presented in the evidence map, whether or not further work should be pursued and whether or not adult screening for bladder cancer should remain the same.

Current recommendation

2. The UK NSC currently does not recommend systematic population screening for bladder cancer in adults. The Committee based this recommendation on the evidence provided by the 2014 review carried out by Solutions for Public Health.

Evidence Map

3. The 2019 evidence map was undertaken by Solutions for Public Health, in accordance with the triennial review process.
4. The aim of the 2019 evidence map was to gauge the type and volume of evidence published since 2014 on the accuracy of screening tests and whether there any national or international guidelines or recommendations on population screening for bladder cancer. The focus of this review was limited to screening of a general population of asymptomatic adults aged 18 years and over.
5. The conclusion of the 2019 evidence map is that the current recommendation not to introduce the whole population screening for bladder cancer in adults should be retained and further work should not be pursued at this time. This is because of the following reasons:
 - There is no screening test which is suitable for population screening. The limited number of relevant studies identified restricts the conclusions that could be drawn. Also, there is insufficient new evidence in this key area to justify commissioning an evidence summary. The volume and type of evidence identified is unlikely to lead to a change in the UK NSC's current position. **Criteria 4 and 5 not met**

- A number of guidelines and consensus documents have made recommendations relating to population screening for bladder cancer. While 5 guidelines/ consensus documents that mentioned screening for bladder cancer were identified, none of these recommended general population screening of asymptomatic adults.

Consultation

6. A three-month consultation was hosted on the UK NSC website from 6 January to 6 April 2020. Direct emails were sent to 22 stakeholders (see **Annex A**).
7. Comments were received from the following stakeholders:
 - i. Royal College of General Practitioners
 - ii. The Royal College of Radiologists
 - iii. University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

(See **Annex B** for comments)

8. Three consultation responses were received. The consultation comments received are presented below in **Annex B**.
9. Overall, stakeholders agreed that there is no suitable screening test and that UK NSC should not recommend a population screening.

Recommendation

10. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation:

A population screening programme for bladder cancer in adults is not recommended in the UK.

While further work should not be pursued at this time, the evidence on this condition should be reconsidered in 3 years. The UK NSC noted that new, more useful biomarkers are expected in several years' time therefore this condition should remain on the UK NSC's conditions list.

Criteria (only include criteria included in the review)	Met/Not Met
Section 1 - Criteria for appraising the viability, effectiveness and appropriateness of a screening programme	
The Test	
4. There should be a simple, safe, precise and validated screening test. 5. The distribution of test values in the target population should be known and a suitable cut-off level defined and agreed.	Not Met

Annex A

List of organisations and individuals contacted

1. Bladder & Bowel Foundation
2. The British Association for Cancer Research
3. The British Association of Urological Surgeons
4. Cancer Research UK
5. Faculty of Public Health
6. Macmillan
7. Northern Ireland Cancer Network
8. PHE adult screening programmes
9. Primary Care Urology Society
10. Radiology: National Clinical Director for Diagnostics NHSE
11. Rarer Cancers Forum
12. Royal College of General Practitioners
13. Royal College of Nursing
14. Royal College of Pathologists
15. Royal College of Physicians
16. Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow
17. Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
18. Royal College of Radiologists
19. Royal College of Surgeons
20. Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
21. Society and College of Radiographers
22. Urostomy Association

Annex B

Screening for bladder cancer.

Consultation comments

1. Royal College of General Practitioners

Name:	XXXX XXXX	Email address:	XXXX XXXX
Organisation (if appropriate):	Royal College of General Practitioners		
Role:			
<p>Do you consent to your name being published on the UK NSC website alongside your response?</p> <p>Yes - Organisation name only</p>			
Section and / or page number	Text or issue to which comments relate	Comment <i>Please use a new row for each comment and add extra rows as required.</i>	
General	General	The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) supports the position of the UK NSC to not recommend a population screening programme for bladder cancer.	
6	Outcome	The RCGP supports the decision, based on the evidence presented, not to conduct an update review at the current time.	

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2. The Royal College of Radiologists

Name:	XXXX XXXX	Email address:	XXXX XXXX
Organisation (if appropriate):	The Royal College of Radiologists		
Role:	XXXX XXXX		
<p>Do you consent to your name being published on the UK NSC website alongside your response?</p> <p>Yes No</p>			
Section and / or page number	Text or issue to which comments relate	Comment <i>Please use a new row for each comment and add extra rows as required.</i>	
General	General	The RCR supports the conclusion not to recommend systemic population screening for bladder cancer at this time.	

3. University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Name:	XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX Department of Urology	Email address:	XXXX XXXX
Organisation (if appropriate):	University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust		
Role:	XXXX XXXX		
Do you consent to your name being published on the UK NSC website alongside your response?			
No			
Section and / or page number	Text or issue to which comments relate	Comment <i>Please use a new row for each comment and add extra rows as required.</i>	
		The Department of Urology agrees with the current position of UK NSC that there is no suitable test to screen for bladder cancer.	