



Cancer Nurse Specialist Workshops

The importance of treating pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (PEI) in pancreatic cancer

Viatriis is hosting a number of workshops focusing on PEI in pancreatic cancer during 2022. The workshops will be led by Vicki Stevenson-Hornby, Cancer Nurse Specialist Royal Blackburn General.

We are delighted to invite you to attend one of the following workshops:

Monday 21st March (6–9pm) Thursday 28th April (6–9pm) Tuesday 24th May (6–9pm)

Meet the speaker



Vicki Stevenson-Hornby

Vicki is based at East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, a tertiary centre for pancreas conditions. Vicki commenced in post in April 2020 as the Pancreatic Specialist Nurse for the Rapid Diagnostic Service for Lancashire and South Cumbria Cancer Alliance. Vicki works tirelessly to improve the diagnostic and treatment pathways for patients receiving a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

PEI in pancreatic cancer

Up to 80% of patients with a tumour in the head of the pancreas will have PEI.¹ However, the recently published RICOCHET paper showed that approximately only 50% of patients with PEI and pancreatic cancer were treated with Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT),² this is despite NICE recommendations to prescribe PERT, untreated PEI is strongly correlated with a poor survival in advanced pancreatic cancer.³

Getting the basics right

The management of pancreatic cancer can be challenging. Around 8% of patients are suitable for curative surgery,⁴ whilst chemotherapy treatment can be challenging with many patients unable to complete all cycles of therapy.⁵ Improving nutrition in patients with pancreatic cancer through the management of PEI can have a positive impact on outcomes and quality of life.^{6,7}

The workshop will explore the following points

- How can outcomes for pancreatic cancer be improved?
- Current state of play in PERT prescribing
- How to improve the diagnosis of both pancreatic cancer and PEI?
- The challenges of malnutrition and managing PEI
- The benefits of treating PEI

Please continue to report suspected adverse drug reactions with any medicine or vaccine to the MHRA through the Yellow Card Scheme. It is easiest and quickest to report adverse drug reactions online via the Yellow Card website: <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk> or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. Alternatively, you can report via some clinical IT systems (EMIS/SystemOne/Vision/MiDatabank) or by calling the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) free phone line: 0800-731-6789. Adverse reactions/events should also be reported to MAH at e-mail address: pv.uk@viatriis.com

This email is intended for UK healthcare professionals. This is an educational workshop initiated, funded and reviewed by Viatriis

1. Dominguez Munoz, JE. J Gastroenterol Hepatol 2011; 26 (Suppl. 2) 12–16 2. The RICOCHET Study Group on behalf of the West Midlands Research Collaborative. Pancreatolgy, 2021. Pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy in patients with pancreatic cancer: A national prospective study. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pan.2021.05.299> 3. Partelli S et al. Dig Liver Dis 2012; 44(11): 945–51. 4. National institute for health and Care excellence (NICE), UK, Guidelines NG85 Feb 2018 5. Domínguez-Muñoz, J.E., Nieto-García, L., López-Díaz, J. et al. Impact of the treatment of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency on survival of patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer: a retrospective analysis. BMC Cancer 18, 534 (2018). 6. Roberts KL et al. HPB 2017, 19(10):859–867 7. Roberts KL et al. Pancreatolgy 2019, 19; 114–121.