Impact of the NABCOP

HQIP
Healthcare Quality
Improvement Partnership

NATIONAL
Evidence of national improvements in the quality and outcomes of care

Rates of surgery among women aged 70+years with early invasive breast cancer (EIBC) remain low by comparison with women aged 50–69 in England & Wales (75% versus 96%, respectively)*. For both the age groups, surgery rates increased by 1% in in 2014-18* compared to 2014-17**. Furthermore, there was greater variation in rates of surgery among women with estrogen receptor (ER) positive EIBC compared with women with ER negative disease. The results suggest there were older women who were physically fit and who did not have surgery.

The 'fitness assessment form' items (introduced by the NABCOP in 2019) can now be collected as part of COSD V9.0[‡] in English NHS trusts, with the aim to extend collection to Welsh Health Boards soon. This is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/fitness-assessment-tool/

The percentage of women with suspected breast cancer who had triple diagnostic assessment (TDA) at their initial visit remains low but rose from 66% in 2017** to 68% in 2018* in England & Wales.

*Reported in 2020 report / ** reported in 2019 report. Found at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports-home/

[‡]Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset is one of the main English data sources for the NABCOP's reports.

SYSTEM
How the project supports policy development & management of the system

The NABCOP team developed a method for measuring frailty within administrative datasets – via the Secondary Care Administrative Records Frailty (SCARF) index. This will aid the interpretation of patterns of care as patient frailty is a key consideration in treatment decisions. The associated peer reviewed journal is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/publications/secondary-care-administrative-records-frailty-scarf-index/

The NABCOP presented 2019 annual report results at the Wales Cancer Network (WCN) Breast Cancer Educational Event in March 2020, to discuss recommendations amongst the multidisciplinary audience.

The NABCOP has provided a dataset of Audit results to Public Health England (PHE) so that NHS breast cancer units are able to interrogate their results on the PHE's CancerStats website. More information on CancerStats is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/cancerstats-area/

LOCAL
How the project stimulates quality improvement (QI)

The NABCOP increased their engagement with breast cancer teams via social media. @NABCOP_News Twitter followers have increased by 63%, to 295 (July 2020), since the launch of our previous report (May 2019).

The NABCOP Annual Report 2020 NHS Organisation Data Viewer, published on the website, provides tabular and graphical summaries for individual NHS organisations to view their local audit results. This is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/nabcop-2020-annual-report-supplementary-materials/

The NABCOP Local Action Plan 2020 and NABCOP Regional Presentation Template 2020 help local teams to set clear QI aims based on the audit's recommendations and develop plans for implementation. These are available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/nabcop-2020-annual-report-supplementary-materials/

Resources that give an introduction to QI and commonly used QI tools, have also been made available on the NABCOP Website. These are available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/quality-improvement-resources/

PUBLIC
How the project is used by the public and the demand for it

The audit team gave presentations at 8 COSD[‡] Roadshows, run by Public Health England (PHE), describing the findings from 2019 Annual Report and highlighting the various QI support publications available. More information on this is available at: http://www.ncin.org.uk/collecting_and_using_data/data_collection/cosd_roadshows_2020

Downloads of the main report and public & patients reports reached 320 in the first fortnight after publication (July 2020). Download rates increased by 10% in 2020 compared to 2019 (291 downloads in the first fortnight). *Rates confirmed by Google Analytics.*

Infographics that summarise the main report results for patients and the public were developed with patients and patient representatives. This is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports/nabcop-2020-annual-report/

The audit's public and patients summary report highlights issues related to the treatment of older women and provides links to additional resources. This is available at: https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports/nabcop-2020-public-and-patients-annual-report/

[‡]Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset is one of the main English data sources for the NABCOP's reports