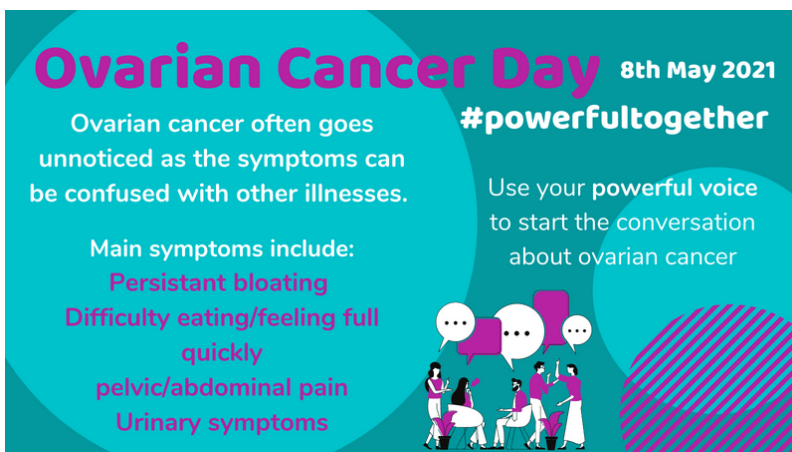


**G M E N G A G E***Monthly Newsletter*

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## What's On: May Mayhem!

*May is jammed with key cancer awareness dates and we want you to help us share our key messages!*



### THE LATEST SCOOP IN THIS ISSUE:

*Awareness Dates!  
Ovarian Cancer Day!  
Training & Events!  
Support Answer Cancer!  
Hot Topics!  
Programme Updates!*

### World Ovarian Cancer Day:

Taking place on 8th May 2021, this annual event is a chance to raise awareness and remind everyone about the signs and symptoms of Ovarian Cancer. These include:

- Persistent bloating
- Difficulty eating and feeling full quickly
- Pain or discomfort in your pelvic or abdominal area
- Urinary issues such as needing to pee more often or more urgently than usual

### International Nurses Day:

This event on the 12th May 2021 is a chance to recognise and thank all of the nurses who have worked so hard over the past year to keep us all safe and care for patients during the Pandemic. We will be marking this day by thanking some of our nurses in the Greater Manchester region and we would ask you all to do the same!

# Upcoming Training and Events!



## Virtual Cancer Week

Greater Manchester Cancer are hosting an online conference between 24th and 28th May. The online event will feature keynote speakers, debates, educational seminars and updates from across clinical and research services in Greater Manchester and beyond. It will also offer sessions focussed on lifestyle advice to help people to live well and reduce their risk of cancer.

The sessions are free to attend and suitable for Greater Manchester healthcare professionals, research professionals, people affected by cancer and the general public. Each day will be dedicated to exploring one of the following core themes: Living Well, Early Detection, COVID-19, International Cancer Day and Engaging Communities.

The sessions will be set up so you can dip in and out of the topics that interest you! You can book your free ticket to attend the event via this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/virtual-cancer-week-tickets-134517067169>

## Drop-In Sessions

Our champions drop-in sessions are an opportunity to meet like-minded people, share best practice and explore campaign ideas!

Our next meeting is on **Friday 7th May at 10am** where the theme will be Ovarian Cancer Day.

## Induction Sessions

Are you new to the Answer Cancer team? Our induction sessions are a wonderful introduction to all things Answer Cancer.

We have two induction sessions taking place on **10th May at 12pm** and **29th May at 11am**.

If you'd like to book onto the champion drop-in or induction session and to find out about future training and events, please register via this link: <https://www.cancerchampionsgm.org.uk/events/>

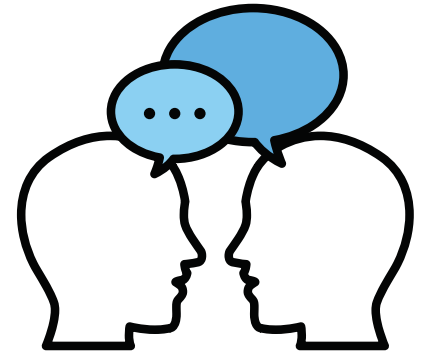


# How can you support Answer Cancer?

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We're always looking to work with more local community groups and workplaces so we can continue to share our messages and save lives!

If you're a member of a community group or workplace located in Greater Manchester, please get in touch! Our Engagement Team would love to come along and deliver their Let's Talk Cancer Engagement and Awareness session. The session provides people with general cancer awareness and will be a space to discuss cancer screening options alongside common signs and symptoms of Bowel, Breast and Cervical Cancer. Ultimately, the session is designed to promote the importance of early detection and to encourage people to make fully informed decisions about their own health and wellbeing.



To book a Let's Talk Cancer session please visit [www.cancerchampionsgm.org.uk/contact/](http://www.cancerchampionsgm.org.uk/contact/) or email: [engagement@answercancergm.org.uk](mailto:engagement@answercancergm.org.uk).

## Hot Topics & Cancer News

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### Home HPV Test Kits Trialled

You may have seen in the media that the NHS are piloting HPV home test kits. This trial will involve more than 31,000 women living in the London Boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Islington, Newham and Tower Hamlets.

The kits will enable people to carry out their smear tests in the privacy of their own homes!

There are so many reasons that people don't feel able to attend their cervical screening appointment and we hope the roll out of this pilot project is one step closer to the country reducing these roadblocks and ultimately saving lives!

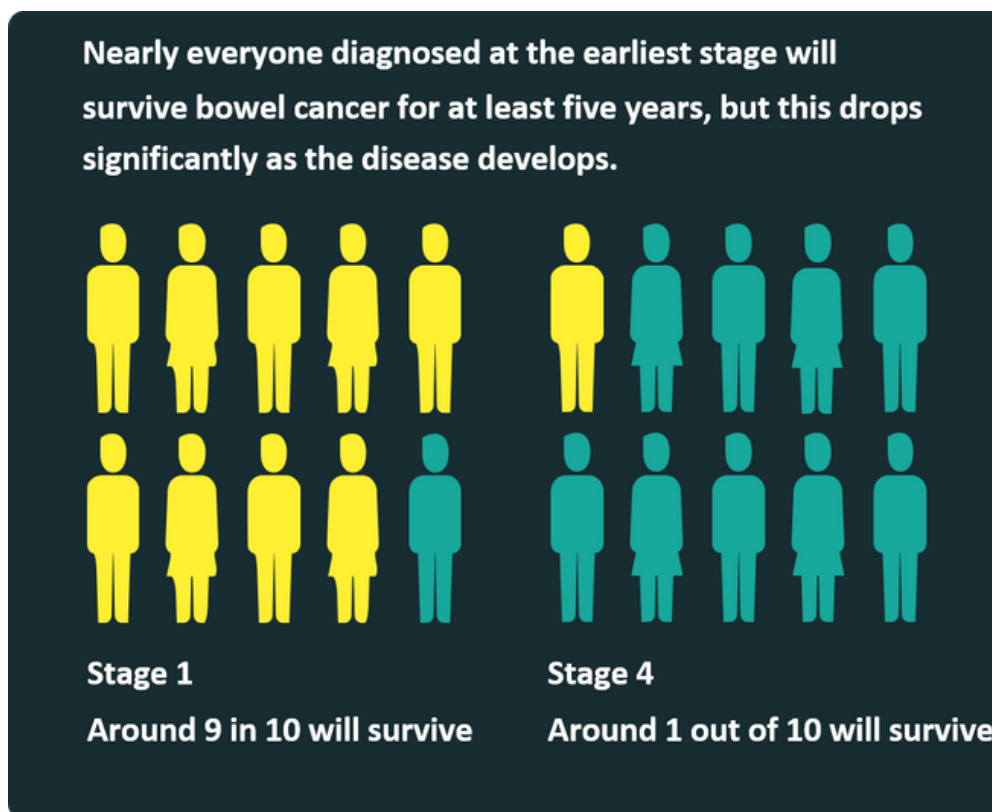
Click here to read more about the trial: [NHS England » NHS gives women Human Papillomavirus Virus \(HPV\) home testing kits to cut cancer deaths.](#)



# April Stakeholder Collaborative

In April we held our regular Answer Cancer online get together (our Stakeholder Collaborative). As April was Bowel Cancer Awareness Month the event was themed to reflect this.

On the day, around 55 people joined us. Roger Dean, one of our brilliant Lead Answer Cancer Champions shared his inspirational story of bowel cancer diagnosis and successful treatment. Christine Sin and Sou Ha Yung from the Wai Yin Society shared their brilliant work around engaging Chinese men. Oliver Butterworth, a Cancer Screening Improvement Lead working on Bowel Screening, gave us an overview of the Bowel Cancer Programme and updates.



We had some fantastic feedback from attendees. Sharing updates, news and inspirational stories is a popular part of the event. Around 20 people stayed for a 'Q&A' session.

We are currently finalising the content and dates of the next one which will be focussing on LGBT+ communities and screening. Watch this space for updates and a 'save the date'.

"It was nice to see everyone.  
Very informative session,  
thank you!"

# What have we been up to?

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## YouTube videos for Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

Throughout April we've shared a series of videos across our social media channels to promote the importance of detecting bowel cancer early! If you have any questions about your bowel cancer screening home testing kit, visit our YouTube channel [here](#) to watch Suzanne Cahill and Anthony Whittaker answer some FAQ's.

For further support visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/bowel-cancer-screening> or call the free bowel cancer screening helpline on 0800 707 60 60.

## Working with local Radio Stations

By working in partnership with local radio station, All FM, we continued to share our Bowel Cancer Awareness messages! We were joined by two bowel cancer survivors, who shared their experience of how their lives were saved by bowel cancer screening. You can listen to this [here](#).

Gaydio, a Manchester based radio station for LGBTQ audiences, recently signed up to be Answer Cancer Champion organisation. Gaydio worked with a group of trainee radio presenters who collectively helped to produce a [short advert](#) promoting bowel cancer awareness month in April.



## Info packs for Ramadan

To show our support for Ramadan we've teamed up with five Mosques across Greater Manchester to circulate 500 information packs to local communities! We hope these information packs help spread our cancer prevention messages far and wide.

**We want to wish all of our Answer Cancer Champions celebrating Eid this month a wonderful and happy Eid Mubarak!**

**ANSWER  
CANCER**



Twitter: @AnswerCancerGM

Website: [www.answercancer.org.uk](http://www.answercancer.org.uk)

Twitter: @GMCancerChamps

Website: [www.cancerchampionsgm.org.uk](http://www.cancerchampionsgm.org.uk)