



### **Award-winning ACE Team recruit new clinical leads.**

ACE (Accelerate, Co-ordinate, Evaluate) is a pathway for patients who present with non-specific symptoms where their GP has concern about a serious underlying condition including cancer. This pathway has been developed over the last few years under the leadership of the Lead Cancer Clinician Dr Rob Turner. Developing a pathway for patients with non-specific but concerning symptoms was one of the key recommendations of the Cancer Task Force report (2015) and was one of the key priorities of the Leeds Cancer Programme under the Early Diagnosis work stream.

ACE is now reaching the point of expansion due to its success and demand and we are delighted to announce the joint appointment of **Dr Anita Sainsbury** and **Dr Sadia Ismail** to take over the clinical leadership and continued development of the pathway. This is a huge boost to the development of ACE program and reflects the true multidisciplinary approach to this initiative.

Dr Sainsbury is a Consultant Gastroenterologist who leads the Upper GI straight to test pathway Endoscopy service within Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust (LTHT).

Dr Ismail is a Consultant in Elderly Medicine whose role spans LTHT and the community.

Their role will be to lead and retain oversight of the multidisciplinary diagnostic collaborative forums where patients with a wide range of symptoms and subsequent diagnoses are reviewed and assessed. Their key leadership role is to continue to develop and expand this innovative service to embrace the expertise of other specialities and fully integrate the pathway into core LTHT business. At the same time both clinicians will work alongside Leeds NHS CCG and primary care partners to deliver the ACE model in community hubs across Leeds.

In 2019 The ACE pathway was nominated for a prestigious HSJ Award and earlier this year and won a Leeds NHS CCG Star Award for Innovation and Transformation. Dr Anita Sainsbury and Dr Sadia Ismail will be joining Dr Sarah Forbes, Joanna Bayton-Smith, Helen Ryan, Jim Barwick, Andy Robinson and Louise Devaney in the ACE delivery team.

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