



**Early diagnosis of cancer:
How do we make sure patients
don't slip through the net?**

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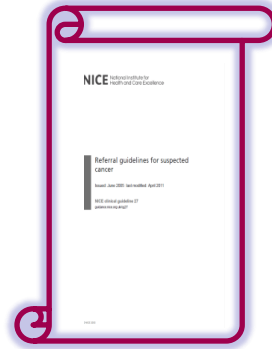
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Safety-netting: Definition

- Safety netting is a ‘diagnostic strategy¹’ or ‘consultation technique²’ and requires effective systems and processes to ensure timely re-appraisal of a patient’s condition.
- NICE definition³: ‘A process where people at low risk, but not no risk, of having cancer are actively monitored in primary care to see if the risk of cancer changes’

What is the guidance around safety netting?

NICE Guidelines 2015: *‘Consider a review for people with any symptom that is associated with an increased risk of cancer, but who do not meet the criteria for referral or other investigative action.*



The review may be:

- **planned** within a time frame agreed with the person, or
- **patient-initiated** if new symptoms develop, the person continues to be concerned, or their symptoms recur, persist or worsen’

What is the guidance around safety netting?

Safety-netting summary

3 elements:

Patient communication

GP consultation

Practice systems

Patient communication



GP consultation



Practice systems



Thank you!

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