What treatment is best for me and my cancer?

The ‘Predict’ tools are free, online resources that allow someone to put in details about a patient and their tumour, and see what treatment options are available and what the potential benefits and harms might be of each.

They are used over 40,000 times each month, worldwide.

For patients, it helps make difficult decisions more understandable and for many patients gives them the confidence to agree to discontinue treatments which adversely affect their quality of life.

Thank you for this wonderful online tool for woman such as myself. By the way, I reside in Bangkok, Thailand.

Your PREDICT programme is now an integral part of treatment planning in the MDT at Peterborough as it is in Cambridge. Thank you for your hard work. It is also very useful to illustrate the benefit to patients, particularly with the addition of the new graphics.
Predict: Breast Cancer is based on a statistical model designed by Prof Paul Pharoah and colleagues at the University of Cambridge's Cancer Epidemiology Unit.

We worked with clinicians, past patients and the general public to develop an entirely new interface to the website. It is now suitable for use directly with patients during their appointments, and presents the information on the likely benefits to a particular individual patient of different treatment options in a range of formats.

The default is a simple table, giving busy clinicians the quick reference to the bare numbers that they need when working fast. Other tabs display the numbers as curves, bar charts, icon arrays and text.

We introduced the option of seeing the uncertainty around the benefits. Our work on uncertainty communication suggests that this does not make it harder for people to understand the information or make decisions based on it.

In 2020, we added the treatment option of extending endocrine therapy from 5 years to 10 years post surgery and have also now translated the tool into five other languages.

Predict: Prostate Cancer is a newer brother site for men diagnosed with non-metastatic prostate cancer. The model was developed by Vincent Gnanapragasam and David Thurtle at the University of Cambridge's Department of Urology.

Predict: Prostate Cancer uses the same design as Predict: Breast Cancer, and has also been translated into five languages. It also includes information about potential harms of the treatment options, which we are now adding to Predict: Breast as well, having recently completed an extensive study determining how best to communicate this information.

Other exciting changes coming to Predict:Breast Cancer are the incorporation of Paul Pharoah’s updated model (with PR status as an input, new baseline data and deaths from therapies included in the survival estimates). Additionally, radiotherapy is being added as a treatment option, thanks both to Paul Pharoah and to the assistance of Prof Sarah Darby, Carolyn Taylor and team at the University of Oxford.