

Update Update January 2010		Date completed:	
Serum tumour markers	Practice based <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-practice based <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

This activity is for all, whether you are based regularly in the same practice or not.

We suspect that most GPs fall into one of two groups: those that never use tumour markers (except perhaps PSA), and those that use them quite frequently. So here we want to explore your use of tumour markers in view of the evidence summarised in this Update Update.

➤ **Over the last 6-12m. How would you describe your use of tumour markers:**

✓/x

I have not measured any tumour markers (except PSA).

I have used tumour markers reasonably frequently.

➤ **Reflect on reasons why you have/have not used tumour markers.**

Be honest - reasons might include lack of confidence or uncertainty about their value.

➤ **Now read the Update Update on tumour markers. Summarise the key points relating to the role of tumour markers in clinical practice in ...**

Screening asymptomatic individuals?	In those with non-specific symptoms?
In those with confirmed cancer?	Measuring multiple tumour markers?

➤ **In those with features suspicious of cancer, what are the key messages?**

Here you may also want to jot down which tumour markers are helpful in diagnosis and for which condition, or at least any you are unfamiliar with.

➤ **Now write brief notes on:**

False positives with tumour markers

False negatives with tumour markers

➤ **Now write brief notes on how you are going to change your practice in the light of this evidence:**

The GP Update Course – A one day course for GPs and GP Registrars, by GPs.

We trawl through all the journals and do all the legwork to bring you up to speed on the latest issues, research and guidelines in General Practice. **We set all this in the context of the consulting room and the requirements of revalidation.** We focus on actions - getting the literature into practice and ensuring it counts towards revalidation. We make it entertaining too, without compromising the content!

Course delegates receive The GP Update Handbook, a 350 page book with subjects presented in a similar structure to this Update Update! Much more than just lecture notes, the Handbook covers more subjects more extensively than is possible in the one-day course. It is a valuable resource for future reference and exam revision. Delegates also get a free trial access to the online version of the Handbook, making it easier to find things during a consultation, and one less thing to carry around!

Spring 2010 dates:

Exeter Wednesday May 12
Southampton Thursday May 13
London Friday May 14
London Saturday May 15

Newcastle Wednesday May 19
Sheffield Thursday May 20
Manchester Friday May 21
Birmingham Saturday May 22
Oxford Wednesday May 26

GPs £180, GP Registrars £150. For more details see www.gp-update.co.uk.

We make every effort to ensure the information in these pages is accurate, but this should not replace your own good clinical judgment. In particular check drug doses, side effects and interactions with the British National Formulary. We can not accept any responsibility for any errors made.

Primary Care Education LLP