

Cancer Waiting Times, January to March 2015 - Commissioner Data

The latest quarterly statistics on waiting times for suspected and diagnosed cancer patients accessing services within the NHS were released by NHS England on 20th May 2015 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

Waiting Times for Cancer Services – Quarter Four 2014/15

The key points from the latest release are:

The key results for outpatient services and pathways ending with first definitive treatments show that, for cancer patients whose care was commissioned by the English NHS, during the period January to March 2015:

Two week wait:

- 94.7% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer (94.7% in Q3 2014/15)
- 94.7% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (94.9% in Q3 2014/15)

One month (31-day) wait from diagnosis to first definitive treatment:

- 97.4% of people treated received first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis and agreeing a package of care (97.7% in Q3 2014/15)

Two month (62-day) wait from urgent GP referral to first definitive treatment:

- 82.0% of people treated received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP, all cancers (83.6% in Q3 2014/15)

62-day wait extensions:

- 88.5% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority (89.3% in Q3 2014/15)
- 91.4% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, (93.6% in Q3 2014/15)

The key results for waiting times for second or subsequent treatment for patients whose care was commissioned by the English NHS, during the period January to March 2015:

31-day wait for subsequent treatment:

- 94.9% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (95.8% in Q3 2014/15)
- 99.5% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (99.6% in Q3 2014/15)
- 97.7% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (97.8% in Q3 2014/15)

More detailed commentary and analyses are published as part of this release on the NHS England website.

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/category/statistics/commissioner-waiting-cancer/>

Contact address and email

You can obtain further details about the statistics published in this section or comment on the section by contacting the following address:

Paul McDonnell
Cancer Waiting Times Team
Room 5E15, Quarry House,
Quarry Hill,
Leeds.
LS2 7UE
Email: cancer-waits@dh.gsi.gov.uk