

Cancer Waiting Times, September 2018 – Provider Based - Final

The latest monthly Official Statistics on waiting times for suspected and diagnosed cancer patients accessing NHS services, produced by NHS England, were released on 10/01/2019 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

Waiting Times for Cancer Services – September 2018

The key results for outpatient services and first definitive treatments show that, in England, during the period September 2018:

Two week wait:

- 91.2% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer (91.7% in August 2018)
- 91.8% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (90.7% in August 2018)

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

- 96.3% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (97.0% in August 2018)
- 98.1% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (98.5% in August 2018)
- 98.9% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (98.5% in August 2018)
- 96.7% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.1% in August 2018)
- 91.9% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (93.5% in August 2018)
- 96.4% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.4% in August 2018)

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

- 78.3% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP, all cancers (79.2% in August 2018)

- 90.9% of people treated for breast cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (91.6% in August 2018)
- 72.3% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (74.1% in August 2018)
- 67.8% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (71.1% in August 2018)
- 67.3% of people treated for urological cancers (excluding testicular cancer) received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (67.2% in August 2018)
- 94.3% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (96.0% in August 2018)

62-day wait extensions

- 84.7% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (86.5% in August 2018)
- 89.0% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (89.9% in August 2018)

The key results for waiting times for second or subsequent treatment show that, in England, during the period September 2018:

31-day wait for subsequent treatment:

- 92.6% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (93.8% in August 2018)
- 99.5% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (99.4% in August 2018)
- 96.4% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (97.1% in August 2018)

More analyses are published as part of this statistical release on the NHS England website.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/cancer-waiting-times/quarterly-prov-cwt/>

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: england.cancerwaitsdata@nhs.net