



Cancer Waiting Times, February 2019 – Provider Based – Revised Final

The latest monthly Official Statistics on waiting times for suspected and diagnosed cancer patients accessing NHS services, produced by NHS England and NHS Improvement, were released on 11/07/2019 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

Waiting Times for Cancer Services – February 2019

The key results for outpatient services and first definitive treatments show that, in England, during the period February 2019:

Two week wait:

- 93.4% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer (91.7% in January 2019)
- 82.4% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (82.5% in January 2019)

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

- 96.7% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (95.4% in January 2019)
- 98.0% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (96.2% in January 2019)
- 98.4% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.7% in January 2019)
- 97.1% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (95.5% in January 2019)
- 93.6% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (92.1% in January 2019)
- 97.0% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (95.5% in January 2019)

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

- 76.2% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP, all cancers (76.3% in January 2019)

- 88.9% of people treated for breast cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (88.6% in January 2019)
- 68.1% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (68.9% in January 2019)
- 66.3% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (66.5% in January 2019)
- 67.8% 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 (68.7% in January 2019)
- 94.7% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (93.3% in January 2019)

62-day wait extensions

- 82.9% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (83.7% in January 2019)
- 84.4% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (84.6% in January 2019)

The key results for waiting times for second or subsequent treatment show that, in England, during the period February 2019:

31-day wait for subsequent treatment:

- 92.8% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (90.7% in January 2019)
- 99.4% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (98.8% in January 2019)
- 97.3% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (95.6% in January 2019)

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