



## **Cancer Waiting Times, November 2018 – 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 – November 2018**

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

#### **Two week wait:**

- 92.5% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer (92.3% in October 2018)
- 87.9% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (91.9% in October 2018)

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

- 96.6% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (96.6% in October 2018)
- 98.1% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.9% in October 2018)
- 98.4% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (98.4% in October 2018)
- 97.5% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.7% in October 2018)
- 92.1% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (92.7% in October 2018)
- 97.4% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.0% in October 2018)

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

- 79.4% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP, all cancers (78.5% in October 2018)

- 92.0% of people treated for breast cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (91.7% in October 2018)
- 72.0% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (71.7% in October 2018)
- 70.4% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (67.4% in October 2018)
- 71.6% 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 (70.6% in October 2018)
- 94.6% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (94.4% in October 2018)

#### **62-day wait extensions**

- 85.6% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (84.0% in October 2018)
- 88.6% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (87.5% in October 2018)

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

#### **31-day wait for subsequent treatment:**

- 93.0% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (92.8% in October 2018)
- 99.5% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (99.3% in October 2018)
- 97.3% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (97.6% in October 2018)

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

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