



## **Cancer Waiting Times, July 2019 – Provider Based – 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 09/01/2020 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

### **Waiting Times for Cancer Services – July 2019**

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

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

- 90.9% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer (90.1% in June 2019)
- 82.5% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (78.0% in June 2019)

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

- 96.5% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (95.99% in June 2019)
- 97.7% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.3% in June 2019)
- 97.9% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.7% in June 2019)
- 97.8% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (97.0% in June 2019)
- 93.3% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (92.5% in June 2019)
- 95.98% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (95.7% in June 2019)

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

- 77.8% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP, all cancers (76.8% in June 2019)
- 88.8% 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 June 2019)
- 64.6% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (68.6% in June 2019)
- 71.2% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (64.8% in June 2019)
- 70.6% 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 (69.0% in June 2019)
- 94.1% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer by their GP (95.4% in June 2019)

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

- 83.7% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (81.3% in June 2019)
- 85.8% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (85.1% in June 2019)

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

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

- 92.3% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (91.2% in June 2019)
- 99.2% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (99.2% in June 2019)
- 97.2% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (96.6% in June 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

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