



## **Cancer Waiting Times, November 2020 - 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 08/07/2021 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

### **Waiting Times for Cancer Services - November 2020**

The key results for outpatient services and first definitive treatments show that, in England, during the period November 2020:

#### **Two week Wait:**

- 87.0% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent referral for suspected cancer (87.9% in October 2020)
- 67.7% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (76.9% in October 2020)

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

- 95.2% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (95.8% in October 2020)
- 96.8% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (96.8% in October 2020)
- 97.0% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (98.3% in October 2020)
- 94.6% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (95.2% in October 2020)
- 94.3% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (94.9% in October 2020)
- 93.0% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (93.2% in October 2020)

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

- 75.5% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer, all cancers (74.4% in October 2020)
- 86.7% of people treated for breast cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (83.4% in October 2020)
- 69.6% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (71.1% in October 2020)

- 55.3% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (53.3% in October 2020)
- 74.4% of people treated for urological cancers (excluding testicular cancer) received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (69.4% in October 2020)
- 91.5% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (91.9% in October 2020)

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

- 83.1% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (82.8% in October 2020)
- 88.1% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (85.1% in October 2020)

The key results for waiting times for second or subsequent treatment show that, in England, during the period November 2020:

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

- 88.0% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (90.1% in October 2020)
- 99.4% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (99.5% in October 2020)
- 97.2% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (97.1% in October 2020)

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/>

### **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:

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