



Cancer Waiting Times, April 2022 - 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 13/04/2023 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

Waiting Times for Cancer Services - April 2022

The key results for outpatient services and first definitive treatments show that, in England, during the period April 2022:

Two week Wait:

- 78.7% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent referral for suspected cancer (80.6% in March 2022)
- 62.2% of people urgently referred for breast symptoms (where cancer was not initially suspected) were seen within two weeks of referral (59.5% in March 2022)

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

- 92.8% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis, all cancers (93.5% in March 2022)
- 92.4% of people treated for breast cancer began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (93.4% in March 2022)
- 95.3% of people treated for lung cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (95.8% in March 2022)
- 89.4% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (91.1% in March 2022)
- 93.4% of people treated for urological cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (93.4% in March 2022)
- 89.6% of people treated for skin cancers began first definitive treatment within 31 days of receiving their diagnosis (91.6% in March 2022)

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

- 65.7% of people treated began first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer, all cancers (67.5% in March 2022)
- 69.3% of people treated for breast cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (72.1% in March 2022)

- 59.6% of people treated for lung cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (61.8% in March 2022)
- 46.0% of people treated for lower gastrointestinal cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (48.1% in March 2022)
- 60.6% of people treated for urological cancers (excluding testicular cancer) received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (62.0% in March 2022)
- 88.1% of people treated for skin cancers received first definitive treatment within 62 days of being urgently referred for suspected cancer (90.2% in March 2022)

62-day wait extensions

- 78.5% of patients began first definitive treatment within 62 days of a consultant's decision to upgrade their priority, all cancers (77.2% in March 2022)
- 72.9% of people began first definitive treatment for cancer within 62 days of referral from an NHS cancer screening service, all cancers (74.6% in March 2022)

The key results for waiting times for second or subsequent treatment show that, in England, during the period April 2022:

31-day wait for subsequent treatment

- 82.5% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was surgery (82.4% in March 2022)
- 98.1% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was an anti-cancer drug regimen (98.5% in March 2022)
- 92.0% of people began treatment within 31 days where the subsequent treatment was a course of radiotherapy (93.7% in March 2022)

The key results for waiting times for urgent referral to a patient being told they have cancer, or that cancer is definitively excluded show that, in England, during the period of April 2022:

28-day Faster Diagnosis (All Routes):

- 70.3% of people were told by a specialist if they had cancer, or if cancer was definitively excluded within four weeks (28-days) of an urgent referral (73% in March 2022)

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:

Paul McDonnell
Cancer Waiting Times Team
Room 5E15, Quarry House,
Quarry Hill,
Leeds.
LS2 7UE
Email: england.cancerwaitsdata@nhs.net