

Update on one year cancer survival rates

West Yorkshire

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1. Introduction

The APPGC believes that monitoring progress of cancer survival rates is crucial to drive improvements on early diagnosis, locally and nationally. This aim of this briefing is to communicate to commissioners and parliamentarians the latest data on one year cancer survival rates by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the recent changes in policy. Our ambition must be clear: the country should be among the best in Europe in surviving cancer.

Key facts:

- The national one-year cancer survival rate for England is **69%**¹. This means that 69% of cancer patients diagnosed in 2012 survived for over one year²
- The one year survival rate increased from **60%** for adults diagnosed in 1997 to **69%** for adults diagnosed in 2012³
- However there is still a **10% difference** between the best performing CCG's and the worst performing CCG's in England⁴
- There is a **13% difference** between the one year survival rate in the UK and the best in Europe⁵
- From April 2015 CCGs will now be held **to account for improving** their one year cancer survival rates.

2. The importance of early diagnosis to UK cancer survival rates

Recent analysis from Macmillan Cancer Support revealed that there are now 2.5 million people in the UK living with cancer⁶. However, survival rates in the UK continue to be amongst the worst in Europe.

One of the key reasons for the UK's lower survival rate is that many cancers are not diagnosed early enough. Currently, 1 in 5 patients are diagnosed as an emergency, and as their cancer is by this point often more advanced, they are, on average, around twice as likely to die within a year compared with those diagnosed via an urgent GP referral⁷.

Improving early diagnosis is therefore key to improving cancer survival rates. However, the first step to achieving real change is by using data to tell us where improvements need to be made. This is why monitoring one year cancer survival rates are so important. If we matched the best survival rates in Europe, the Government has estimated in the 2011 Cancer Strategy that this would save 10,000 lives a year. That's 10,000 mothers, fathers, friends and loved ones who would still be with us.⁸

3. Cancer survival data in your area

The table below shows the survival rates for all cancers in your NHS England Local Area Team region, split down by CCG. All data can be found online⁹.

CCG	One year cancer survival rate for patients diagnosed in 2011 (national survival rate 68%)	One year cancer survival rate for patients diagnosed in 2012 (national survival rate 68%)
Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven	72%	73%

Bradford City	65%	65%
Bradford Districts	69%	70%
Calderdale	65%	66%
Greater Huddersfield	68%	68%
Leeds North	72%	72%
Leeds South and East	68%	69%
Leeds West	69%	70%
North Kirklees	67%	67%
Wakefield	68%	68%

4. Increased accountability for improving one year cancer survival rates

Recognising that CCG's are now being held to account through the Delivery Dashboard of the CCG Assurance Framework, the APPGC, together with others in the cancer community, campaigned throughout 2014 to have one year survival rate indicators included in this framework.

NHS Chief Executive, Simon Stevens, agreed to this at the Britain Against Cancer conference last year and announced that one year survival would be included in the Delivery Dashboard from April 2015. With the inclusion of one year cancer survival rates in the CCG Assurance Framework, CCG's **will be accountable and face increased scrutiny on what they are doing to improve one year survivals from cancer.**

The APPGC believes that this step could be transformational in improving cancer outcomes. By putting one-year cancer survival rates up in lights, CCGs will be able to identify where progress is vitally needed. It is our hope that, armed with this data and having it embedded in the NHS architecture, CCGs will be able to make strides towards improving survival.

5. What could CCGs do with this data?

To improve early diagnosis of cancer, CCG's may wish to consider the following:

- Improving public awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer through awareness raising campaigns (e.g. Be Clear on Cancer)
- Improving GP awareness and timely access to diagnosis through training and innovative diagnostic tools (e.g. the electronic Cancer Decision Support Tool).
- Looking to create Local Improvement Schemes to create financial incentives for GPs to improve cancer patient outcomes through encouraging timely referrals.

CCGs have a vital role to play in using this data to target interventions to improve early diagnosis of cancer in each locality. With local leadership, cancer survival rates can be improved, helping us reach the goal of having cancer survival rates among the best in Europe.

About the APPGC

The APPGC was founded in 1998 to keep cancer at the top of the political agenda, and to ensure that policy-making remains patient centred. The Group brings together MPs and Peers from across the political spectrum to debate key issues and campaign together to improve cancer services.

¹ ONS and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2014, Index of cancer survival for Clinical Commissioning Groups in England: Adults diagnosed 1997-2012 and followed up to 2013 (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/cancer-unit/a-cancer-survival-index-for-clinical-commissioning-groups/adults-diagnosed-1997-2012-and-followed-up-to-2013/index.html> accessed January 2015)

² The data behind this figure has been standardised for age, sex and cancer type in order to minimise bias. Further information on how the index was constructed can be found on the ONS website referenced in note 1.

³ ONS and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2014, Index of cancer survival for Clinical Commissioning Groups in England: Adults diagnosed 1997-2012 and followed up to 2013 (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/cancer-unit/a-cancer-survival-index-for-clinical-commissioning-groups/adults-diagnosed-1997-2012-and-followed-up-to-2013/index.html> accessed January 2015)

⁴ Table 8, Identification of the Clinical Commissioning Groups where the one-year survival index for all cancers combined fell above or below the 99.8% control limits on the funnel plot (Figure 4B) for all adults (aged 15-99 years) diagnosed in 2012 (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/cancer-unit/a-cancer-survival-index-for-clinical-commissioning-groups/adults-diagnosed-1997-2012-and-followed-up-to-2013/rft-table-8.xls>)

⁵ 1 year, age adjusted relative survival in the UK and Ireland for patients diagnosed between 2000 - 2007 is 68%, in Sweden it is 81%. Eurocare 5 Survival Analysis 2000 – 2007 (<https://w3.iss.it/site/EU5Results/> accessed January 2015)

⁶ Maddams J, Utley M, Møller H. Projections of cancer prevalence in the United Kingdom, 2010-2040. Br J Cancer 2012; 107: 1195-1202. (Projections scenario 1). Macmillan analysis based on extrapolation of 2010 and 2020 projections that the number of people living with cancer will hit an estimated 2.5 million in 2015.

⁷ National Audit Office: Progress in Improving Cancer Services and Outcomes in England (2015)

⁸ Department of Health: Improving Outcomes: A Strategy for Cancer (2011)

⁹ ONS and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2014, Index of cancer survival for Clinical Commissioning Groups in England: Adults diagnosed 1997-2012 and followed up to 2013 (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/cancer-unit/a-cancer-survival-index-for-clinical-commissioning-groups/adults-diagnosed-1997-2012-and-followed-up-to-2013/index.html> accessed January 2015)