

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE menu indicator guidance

Indicator area: Bowel cancer screening

Indicator ID: CCG83

Date: November 2017

Indicator CCG83: The proportion of eligible people aged 60-74 years whose record shows a bowel screening test has been performed within the last 2.5 years

Rationale

Cancer Research UK report that bowel cancer (also known as colorectal cancer) is the second most common cause of cancer deaths in the UK, with approximately 16,000 deaths each year. This makes prevention and early detection a healthcare priority because if bowel cancer is found early, it is easier to treat. Age is a risk factor for bowel cancer, with almost 75% of cases occurring in people aged 65 or over.

Bowel screening uptake is not as high as uptake of other cancer screening programmes, and there are variations between areas and demographics. The 2015/16 data published by Public Health England report a 31% difference between the highest achieving CCG and lowest achieving CCG for uptake for bowel cancer screening across England, ranging from 66% uptake in the highest performing area to 35% in the lowest.

Reporting and verification

Source guidance and recommendations

National Screening Committee (2015) [Bowel cancer screening: programme overview](#) (2015)

Public Health England (2017) [Key Performance Indicators for the NHS Screening programmes definitions document for 2017/18](#)

What is measured

Numerator: Of the denominator, the proportion of people who have had a bowel screening test within the last 2.5 years.

Denominator: The number of people in a CCG aged 60-74 years eligible for bowel screening.

Data source

Public Health England – [screening programme data](#).

References

Cancer Research UK (2014) – [Bowel cancer statistics](#)

Public Health England (2017) – [Fingertips cancer services data](#)

Further information

This is a guidance document for a NICE menu indicator. The NICE menu of indicators is available online at <https://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/index>