**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE**

**NICE indicator validity assessment**

Assurance date: June 2021

Review date: June 2024

# Indicator IAP00344

# Mortality from breast cancer in females

# Validity assessment

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| **Domain** | **Notes**  | **Assessment** |
| Importance | Indicator is part of the CCG outcomes indicator set section 1 focusing on prevention of premature mortality, with the aim of lowering the numbers to improve health outcomes. Only two periods of data published (16/18 and 17/19) due to a methodology change in 2015. Indicator value fell slightly across the two periods. In the latest period the directly age standardised rate per 100,000 female patients varied from 22.2 to 41.3. | The indicator links to domain 1 of the CCG outcomes indicator set (Preventing people from dying prematurely)Slight downward national trend so far and variation sub-nationally. |
| Evidence base | From data quality statement[[1]](#footnote-1):“Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in England. New cases diagnosed in women each year have increased from under 30,000 in 1993 to more than 41,000 in 2010. During the same period, the number of deaths from breast cancer in women has fallen from 12,500 to just over 9,600. There is a trend of increasing incidence because of lifestyle factors and improved detection, and decreasing mortality because of earlier detection and improvements in the quality and availability of effective treatments.To remain in line with the Office of National Statistics (ONS), deaths from breast cancer in men are not included in this indicator. Breast cancer in men and women is a very different disease, with around 60 male deaths each year in England. Due to the anatomical differences in men and women leading to the differences in presentation of disease, breast cancer in men is routinely separated from analysis of breast cancer as a whole. In addition, with over 200 CCGs, there are insufficient cases to robustly measure breast cancer mortality for men.The desirable outcomes of this domain, specifically the prevention of premature deaths, are supported not only by the provision of health care, but also by public health and social care initiatives. Other contributory factors outside of the control of the NHS, such as socio-economic factors also affect Domain 1 outcomes.”This statement is lifted from the indicator quality statement, however the most recently published three yearly data (2017-2019) states 28,475 deaths in England, around 9,500 per year. | This indicator aligns with NICE guidance (QS12[[2]](#footnote-2), NG101[[3]](#footnote-3), CG81[[4]](#footnote-4), CG164[[5]](#footnote-5), CSG1[[6]](#footnote-6))  |
| Specification  | Numerator: Female death registrations, due to breast cancer, in the calendar year for all England deaths based on GP of registration from the Primary Care Mortality Database (PCMD).Denominator: Unconstrained GP registered female patient counts by single year of age from the NHAIS (Exeter) Systems; extracted annually on 1 April for the forthcoming financial year.Exclusions: NoneMethodology: Directly age and sex standardised rateGeography: England, CCGData Source: Primary Care Mortality DatabaseDisclosure control: Indicator values where the numerator is 0, 1 or 2 are suppressed. Indicator values calculated from numerators under 10 are also suppressed following the recommendations in the PHE Technical Guide Calculating Directly Standardised Rates. Rates are rounded to one decimal place. | The indicator has defined components necessary to construct the indicator. |
| Feasibility  | Both numerator and denominator come from reliable sources which will continue. | Uses readily accessible, reliable and valid routine data |
| Acceptability | In 2014 the ONS made changes to the way cause of death is categorised. However this does not affect this indicator as data prior to this date is not available. | The indicator assesses performance that is attributable to or within the control of the audience.The results of the indicator can be used to improve practice. |
| Risk | None identified. | No risks specific to this indicator identified |

**Summary:** Indicator to be renewed.

**NHS Digital Indicator reference:**

CCG Outcomes Indicator Set - 1.20 Mortality from breast cancer in females

1. NHS Digital. CCG Outcomes Indicator Set, Indicator Quality Statement, 1.20 Mortality from breast cancer in females. Version 1.10, October 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Breast cancer, Last updated 16 June 2016, <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs12> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Early and locally advanced breast cancer: diagnosis and management, Published 18 July 2018, <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng101> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Advanced breast cancer: diagnosis and treatment, Last updated 16 August 2017, <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg81> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Familial breast cancer: classification, care and managing breast cancer and related risks in people with a family history of breast cancer, Last updated 20 November 2019, <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg164> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Improving outcomes in breast cancer, Published 28 August 2002, https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/csg1 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)