**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE**

**NICE indicator validity assessment**

Assurance date: September 2021

Review date: September 2024

# Indicator IAP00350

# Cancers detected at stage 1 or 2

# Validity assessment

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| **Domain** | **Notes** | **Assessment** |
| Importance | Indicator is part of the CCG outcomes indicator set domain 1 – Preventing people from dying prematurely.  At a national level the indicator value has stayed fairly stable, ranging between 54.5% and 55.1% over the period 2013-2018. Variation exists across CCG’s, ranging between 48.1% and 63.8% in the most recent data (2018). | Indicator is based on a recognized dataset.  National value has not changed substantially, however variation between CCGs exists. |
| Evidence base | From indicator quality statement[[1]](#footnote-1):  “This indicator forms part of Domain 1 - Preventing people from dying prematurely. Diagnosis at an early stage of a cancer’s development leads to dramatically improved survival chances. Specific public health interventions, such as screening programmes and information / education campaigns aim to improve rates of early diagnosis. An indicator on the proportion of cancers diagnosed at an early stage is, therefore, a useful proxy for assessing improvements in cancer survival rates.  In January 2011 the Government published Improving Outcomes – a Strategy for Cancer. This document sets out how the Government plans to improve cancer outcomes, including improving survival rates through tackling late diagnosis of cancer, by encouraging symptom awareness in patients and recognition by doctors.” | Make a clear statement in relation to the NICE criteria (available in the process guide)  Evidence base exists. This indicator aligns with numerous NICE guidance on cancer diagnosis. |
| Specification | Numerator: Of cases of cancer in the denominator, the number diagnosed at stage 1 or 2.  Denominator: The number of new cases of cancer diagnosed during the respective year, at any known stage, for the specific cancer sites, morphologies and behaviour: invasive malignancies of Oesophagus; Stomach; Colon; Rectum; Pancreas; Lung; Melanoma of skin; Breast; Cervix; Uterus; Ovary; Prostate; Testis; Kidney; Bladder; Hodgkin lymphoma; Thyroid; Larynx; Oropharynx; Oral cavity; Non-Hodgkin lymphoma.  Exclusions: None  Methodology: Percentage  Geography: England, CCG.  Data Source: National Cancer Registration dataset based on a snapshot of Public Health England’s (PHE) National Cancer Registration and Analysis System (NCRAS), which forms part of the National Disease Registration Service (NDRS).  Disclosure control: If the indicator is calculated from a numerator of 1 to 5, the value is suppressed to ensure an individual’s identity is not at risk of being disclosed. If there is only one value suppressed in this way, the percentage based upon the next lowest numerator is also suppressed; this reduces the risk of the first suppressed number being identifiable in isolation. Percentages are rounded to one decimal place before publication. | The indicator has defined components necessary to construct the indicator. |
| Feasibility | All data from long running data sources. | Data has been flowing for some time and data sources will continue. |
| Acceptability | Indicator source data is robust, though note published as experimental statistics since methodology change in June 2020 to increase the number of cancer sites from 11 to the 21 stated in the specification above. | Make a clear statement in relation to the NICE criteria (available in the process guide)  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 | None identified. |

**Summary:** Indicator to be renewed.

Indicator was revised in June 2020 to change the definition from 11 to 21 cancer sites. All previous initial approvals and renewals are based on the prior definition, however there is no reason to discontinue the indicator in its current (21 site) form. This also matches the related Public Health Outcomes Framework indicator.

**NHS Digital Indicator reference:**

CCG Outcomes Indicator Set - 1.18 Percentage of cancers detected at stage 1 and 2

1. NHS Digital. CCG Outcomes indicator set, Indicator Quality Statement, Domain 1. 1.18 Percentage of cancers detected at stage 1 and 2. Version 1.6, June 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)