



Cancer: detected at stage 1 or 2 (all cancer)

NICE indicator

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www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind3

Indicator

The proportion of cancer cases detected at stage 1 or 2.

Indicator type

Network / system level indicator.

The indicator would be appropriate to understand and report on the performance of networks or systems of providers.

This document does not represent formal NICE guidance. For a full list of NICE indicators, see our [menu of indicators](#).

To find out how to use indicators and how we develop them, see our [NICE indicator process guide](#).

Rationale

Diagnosing cancer at an early stage improves the chance of survival. Specific public health interventions, such as screening programmes and information and education campaigns, aim to improve rates of early diagnosis.

Source guidance

[Suspected cancer: recognition and referral. NICE guideline NG12 \(2015, updated 2023\)](#)

Specification

Numerator: The number of cases in the denominator where cancer is diagnosed at stage 1 or 2.

Denominator: The number of new cases of cancer diagnosed at any stage or unknown stage, for the specific cancer sites, morphologies and behaviour: invasive malignancies of breast, prostate, colorectal, lung, bladder, kidney, ovary, uterus, non-Hodgkin lymphomas and invasive melanomas of skin.

Calculation: Numerator divided by the denominator, multiplied by 100.

Exclusions: People who have treatment in England but are not English residents.

Data source: Cancer Analysis System (CAS), National Cancer Intelligence Network (NCIN).

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to understand and report on the performance of networks or systems of providers.

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