

## Analysis Method Notice

### Delivery of the Cancer 31 Day Waiting Times Target Patients Newly Diagnosed with Cancer, not via the urgency cancer route, that started definitive treatment within 31 days of diagnosis

An accredited Analysis Method describes a method that has been agreed for use in the production of published national outcome indicators, performance measures and/or currencies

Analysis Methods are developed and / or agreed by the Analysis Methodologies Group. They are accredited by the Welsh Information Standards Board. For further details about the group, including Terms of Reference and membership, please visit the following website:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=56696>

**WISB Reference:** IGRN Ref. 2007/019

Please address enquiries about this Analysis Method the NHS Wales Informatics Service Data Standards Team.

E-mail: [data.standards@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:data.standards@wales.nhs.uk) / Tel: 029 2050 2539

<p><b>WISB Appraisal Assessment</b></p>	<p><b>Accredited</b> This Analysis Method has been appraised by WISB and is felt to be fit for purpose in that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets the business requirement;</li> <li>• Is reproducible by organisations, where appropriate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Status of Data Standards Assurance</b></p>	<p><b>WISB Reviewed</b> The data used in this Analysis Method are based on data item standards that have been through the Information Standards Assurance Process.</p>
<p><b>WISB Outcome(s)</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Outcome</a></p>

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## Indicator

The percentage of patients newly diagnosed with cancer, not via the urgent route, that started definitive treatment within (i.e. up to and including) 31 days of diagnosis (regardless of the referral route).

### **Target:**

98% - the target is monitored by individual Local Health Board (LHB).

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## Rationale / Context

Cancer remains a top priority for Wales. Over the coming years, around 1 in 3 people will be diagnosed with cancer before age 75 and around 4 in 10 at some stage during their lifetime. Cancer is a common diagnosis and the incidence is increasing.

Early diagnosis and treatment increases someone's chance of survival and reduces likely harm to that person's health and their family's quality of life. Therefore, our aim in Wales is to treat patients as promptly as possible.

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## Data Source

Aggregate Cancer Waiting Times Target Monitoring Form.

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## Definitions:

### **Definitional Guidance:**

The Cancer Waiting Times Target Monitoring Form is an aggregate data collection. Whereas more complex methodologies could be applied to patient-level data sets, in this case, extensive definitional guidance has been provided to LHBs to enable them to determine the content of their aggregate returns. The central 'analysis' of these returns is then comprised of the straightforward selection of relevant counts for onward presentation.

The following data items and terms are relevant

### **Data Items:**

n/a

### **Terms:**

n/a

*The definitions associated with all the data items and terms above can be accessed via the NHS Wales Data Dictionary - <http://www.datadictionary.wales.nhs.uk>.*

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## Detailed Specification

Data relates to closed pathways.

Full guidance can be found in the following Health Circulars:

Definitions to support the cancer waiting times target

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/docopen.cfm?orgid=362&id=85581>

Monthly data collection of cancer waiting times to start of definitive treatment

[http://www.wales.nhs.uk/documents/WHC\\_2005\\_0271.pdf](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/documents/WHC_2005_0271.pdf)

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## Calculation:

### ***Numerator***

The number of patients newly diagnosed with cancer, not via the urgent route, that started definitive treatment within (i.e. up to and including) 31 days of diagnosis.

### ***Denominator***

The total number of patients newly diagnosed with cancer, not via the urgent route, that started definitive treatment.

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## Reporting Frequency

Aggregate returns are submitted monthly to Welsh Government by Welsh LHBs / Trusts by the last working day of each month.

Publication of performance also takes place on a monthly basis.

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## Areas for Future Development

*The following points reflect considerations raised by either the Analysis Methodologies Group or WISB in terms of aspects of the Analysis Method that require further investigation or development.*

*For a full breakdown of the issues considered, please refer to the formal WISB Outcome for this Analysis Method, which can be access via the Information Standards Assurance website:*

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=52532>

None applicable.

## Appendix A – Additional Information

### Cancer 31 Day Pro Forma

#### MONTHLY CANCER TARGET MONITORING FORM - 'NON' URGENT SUSPECTED CANCER

Month ending:

Local Health Board Name:

Contact name and telephone number:

Tumour site:	Total number of new cancer patients diagnosed <sup>(a)</sup> this month, not included as urgent suspected cancer referrals.	Number of newly diagnosed cancer patients <sup>(a)</sup> starting first definitive treatment this month <b>AND</b> within 31 days of diagnosis	Number of newly diagnosed cancer patients <sup>(a)</sup> starting first definitive treatment this month, <b>NOT</b> within 31 days of diagnosis.				Total number of newly diagnosed cancer patients <sup>(a)</sup> starting first definitive treatment this month.	Number of newly diagnosed cancer patients <sup>(a)</sup> who have <b>NOT YET RECEIVED FIRST DEFINITIVE TREATMENT</b> at the end of this month <sup>(b)</sup> .
			But within 38 days of diagnosis.	But between 39 and 48 days of diagnosis.	But between 49 and 62 days of diagnosis.	But after 62 days of diagnosis.		
	Col. (1)	Col. (2)	Col. (3)	Col. (4)	Col. (5)	Col. (6)	Col. (7) = Total Cols. (2) to (6)	Col. (8)
Head and neck							0	
Upper Gastrointestinal							0	
Lower Gastrointestinal							0	
Lung							0	
Sarcoma							0	
Skin(c)							0	
Brain/CNS							0	
Breast							0	
Gynaecological							0	
Urological							0	
Haematological(d)							0	
Acute Leukaemia							0	
Children's cancer(e)							0	
Other(f)							0	

(a) Not included as urgent suspected cancer referrals.

(b) This should include all patients waiting, irrespective of when they were referred.

(c) Malignant Melanoma and squamous cell carcinoma only. Basal cell carcinomas to be excluded.

#DIV/0!

(d) Excluding acute leukaemia.

(e) All patients under 16 years of age at date of first treatment.

(f) All other cancers not mentioned above.

(g) With regards to SaFF waiting times reporting "date of diagnosis" = "date of decision to treat" = "date upon which the decision to treat was confirmed between a designated member of the MDT and the patient". See WHC(2005)027 for further information.

When complete, please email this spreadsheet to:

[stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Enquiries: Alexandra Fitzpatrick on 029 2082 5016

## **Appendix B – SQL Code** (where applicable)

*Important: The following code is intended for information purposes only. It will contain references to specific references (servers, data item descriptions etc.) that are applicable within the NHS Wales Informatics Service only and therefore will not be suitable for direct application to local (LHB) data.*

n/a