

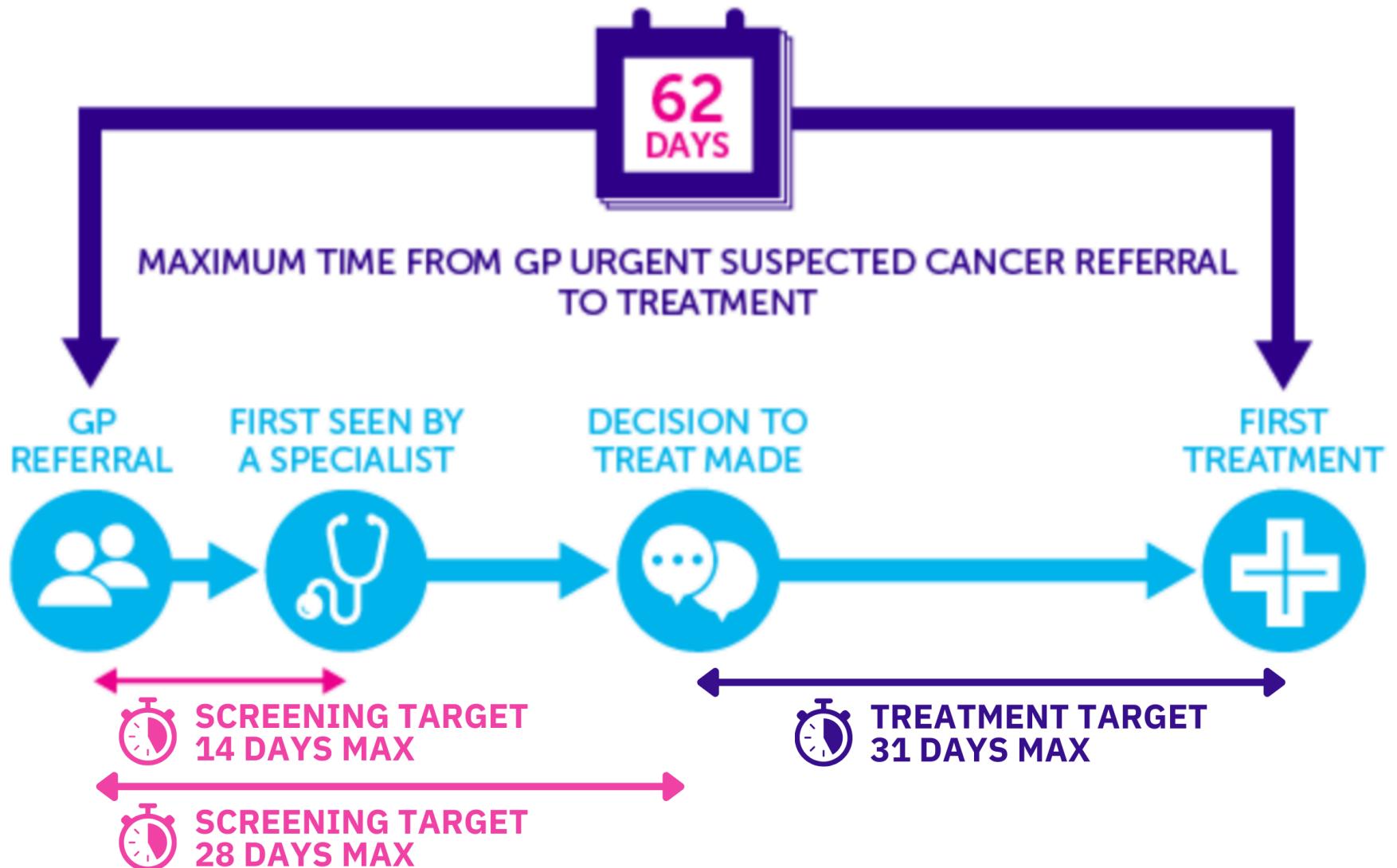
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NHS England - Cancer Waiting Times



NHS England - Cancer Waiting Times



Screening to Diagnosis

Diagnosis to Treatment

Screening to Diagnosis

2 Week Waiting Standard (2WW)



Patients Treated
2.33M

Compliance Rate
78%
↑ 3.5%

Delay Rate
22%

Compliance Rate

Delay Rate



Insights and Recommendations

1. **78%** of patients are treated within the **2WW standard**, but regions like **East** and **Southwest** have **higher delay rates**, requiring process checks.
2. Regions like **Northeast** and **London** achieve **better compliance**, suggesting that adapting the practices could help **reduce delays** elsewhere.

Day 0

Patients Treated

2.26M

Compliance Rate
71%
⬇ -5.0%

Delay Rate
29%



Insights and Recommendations

1. **71%** of patients were treated within the standard, but regions like **East** and **Southwest** show the highest **delay rates**, requiring **improvements**.
2. **Northeast** and **London** regions **perform better** in compliance, demonstrating that resource allocation is **crucial to reducing delays**.

28-Days (FDS)

Day 31

Diagnosis to 1st Treatment

62 Days Treatment Standard

Patients first treatment

5K

Upgrade delays

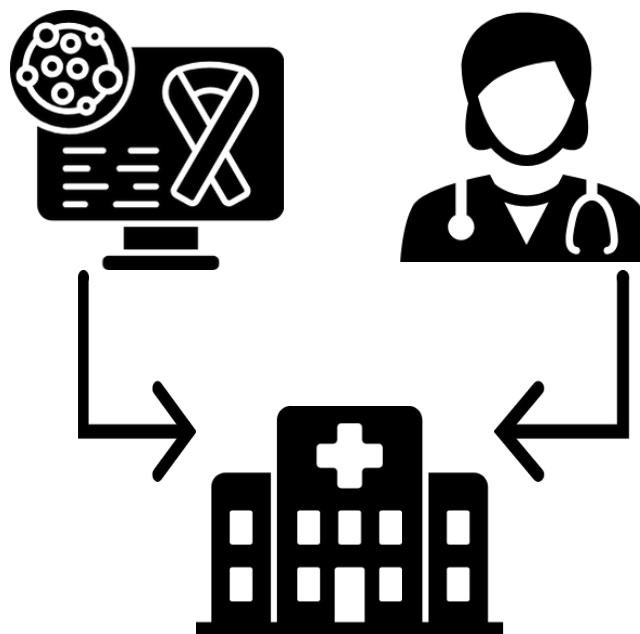
70.96

⬇ -16.5%

Screening delays

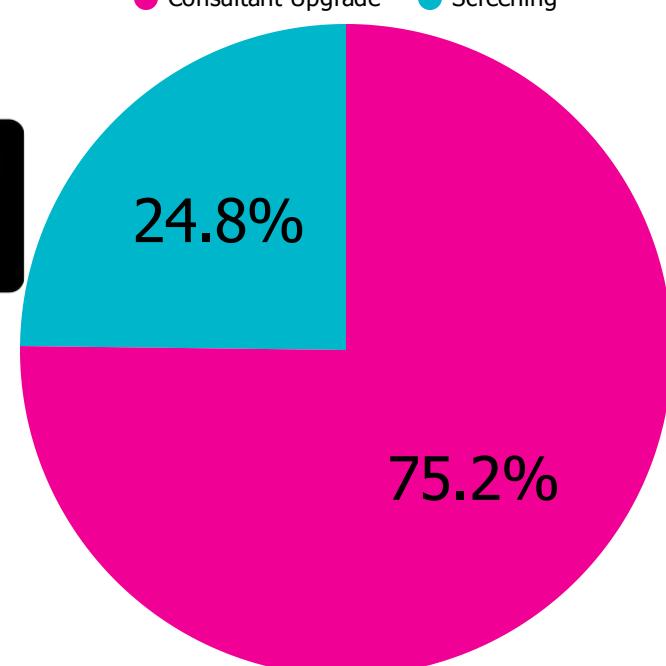
77.14

⬇ -9.2%



Delays per pathway

● Consultant Upgrade ● Screening



DAY 0

DAY 62

In England the target 62-day standard is **85%**

Recommendations

Addressing **consultant delays** could significantly **improve** healthcare delivery and reduce **breach rates**.

Screening has a **lower breach rate** than **Consultant Upgrade** due to the **long wait times** patients face when accessing consultants.

Diagnosis to 2nd Treatment

Day 31

31 Days Treatment Standard

Patients with second treatment

202K

Delay Rate

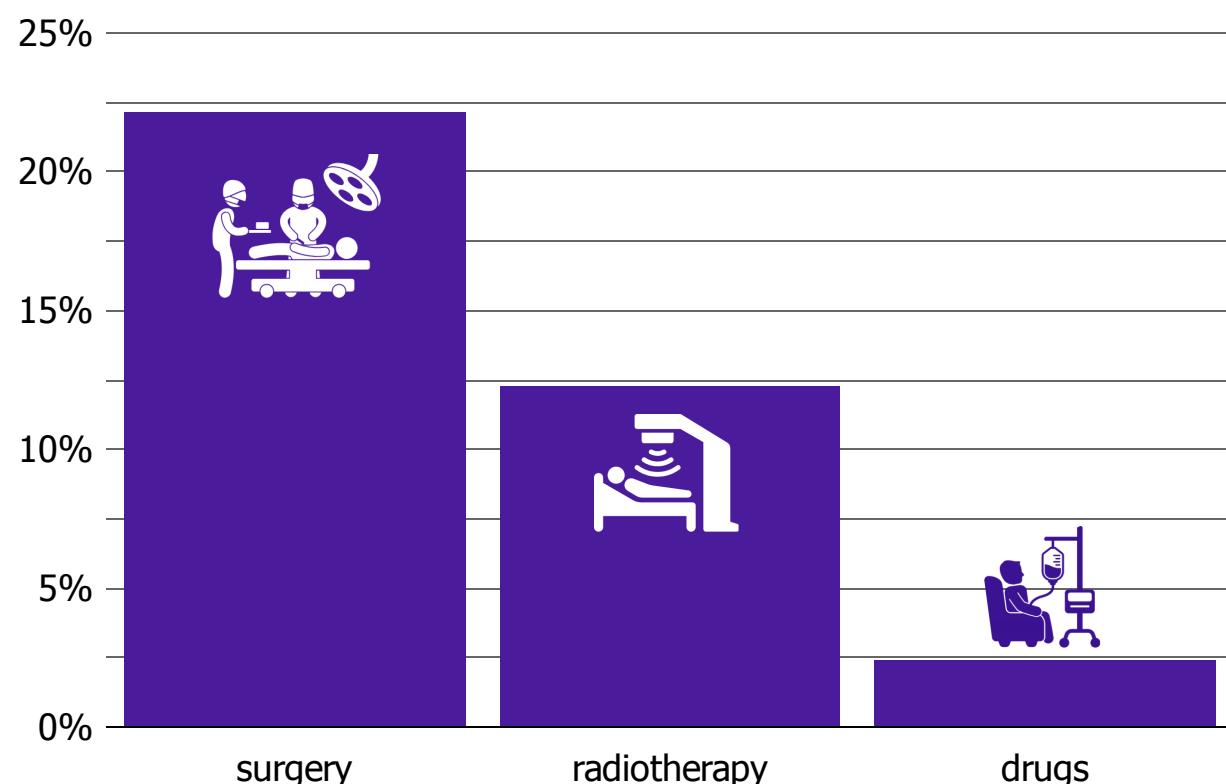
37%

Compliance Rate

88%

⬇ -8.7%

Delays per Treatment Modality



Insights and Reccommendations

1. England's target rate of **compliance** is **96%** (Team G. C., 2024)

2. Delays in treatment are due to a **lack of long-term planning** for cancer care in the UK (Times H., 2024)

3. **1-month delay** in cancer surgery resulted in a **6-8% increase in the risk of death** (Hanna et al., 2020)



Day 62

References:

1. Team, G. C. (2024, August 22). Waiting times for cancer treatment across the UK - Office for National Statistics. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthcaresystem/articles/waitingtimesforcancertreatmentacrosstheuk/2024-08-23>
2. Times, H. (2024, March 22). UK cancer patients waiting longer for treatment than comparable countries, research finds - Hospital Times. Hospital Times. <https://hospitaltimes.co.uk/uk-cancer-patients-waiting-longer-treatment-comparable-countries/>
3. Hanna, T. P., King, W. D., Thibodeau, S., Jalink, M., Paulin, G. A., Harvey-Jones, E., O'Sullivan, D. E., Booth, C. M., Sullivan, R., & Aggarwal, A. (2020). Mortality due to cancer treatment delay: systematic review and meta-analysis. BMJ, m4087. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m4087>

Regional Analysis of Cancer Waiting Times

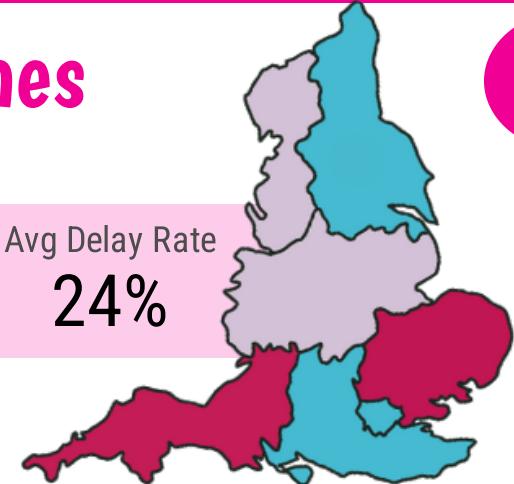
Day 0

Patients Treated
5.2M

Total Delays
1.2M

Avg Compliance Rate
76%

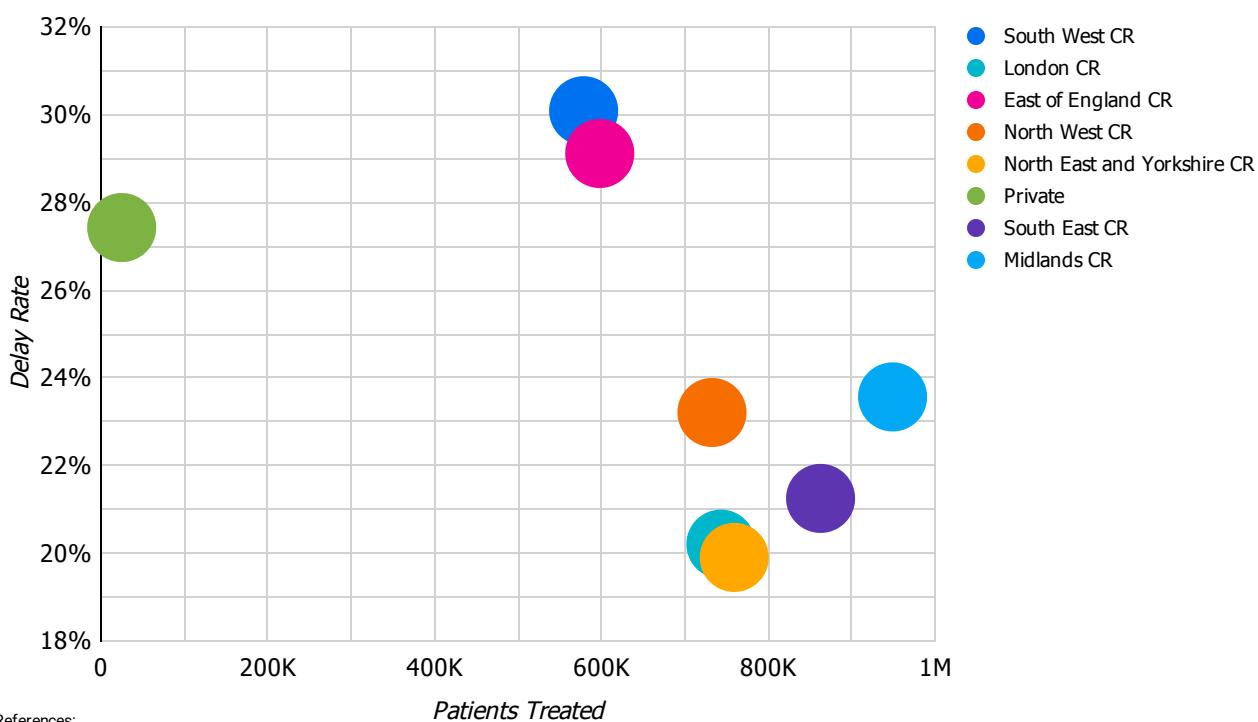
Avg Delay Rate
24%



Short Region Names	Patients Treated	Within Standard	Delay in Treatment	Compliance Rate	Delay Rate
Midlands CR	949.2K	725.5K	223.7K	76%	24%
South East CR	862.8K	679.5K	183.4K	79%	21%
North East and Yorkshir...	759.3K	608.1K	151.1K	80%	20%
London CR	743.3K	593.1K	150.2K	80%	20%
North West CR	732.6K	562.6K	170K	77%	23%
East of England CR	598K	423.9K	174.1K	71%	29%
South West CR	578.7K	404.6K	174.1K	70%	30%
Private	24.8K	18K	6.8K	73%	27%

Delays vs Total Treated

1 - 8 / 8



Recommendations:

1. Increase Staffing and Training in Cancer Care
2. Targeted Investment in Deprived Areas
3. Improve Access for Vulnerable Groups
4. Create Local Solutions for Different Areas



Day 62

References:

- Health inequalities:: East of England Cancer Alliance. (n.d.).
- Roberts, K. (2023, January 18). UK health inequalities: 20,000 more cancer cases a year in the most deprived areas. Cancer Research UK - Cancer News. <https://news.cancerresearchuk.org/2020/09/30/uk-health-inequalities-20000-more-cancer-cases-a-year-in-the-most-deprived-areas/>
- Cancer Strategy :: East of England Cancer Alliance. (n.d.). <https://www.canceralliance.co.uk/news/cancer-strategy>
- Health inequalities & deprivation:: East of England Cancer Alliance. (n.d.). <https://www.canceralliance.co.uk/professionals/recovery/deprivation>

Conclusions

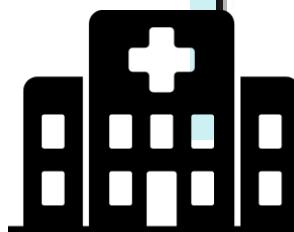
Screening to Diagnosis

Timely cancer diagnosis improves survival rates. Addressing delays will enhance treatment strategies.



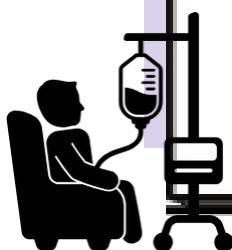
Diagnosis to 1st Treatment

Improving access to consultants, reduces delays and could significantly enhance healthcare delivery, improving treatment timelines and reducing delay rates.



Diagnosis to 2nd Treatment

Surgical delays hinder compliance, increase mortality risk, and require urgent capacity planning to improve patient outcomes.



Regional Analysis

Hire and train more oncology staff, improve access in deprived regions, and develop tailored local solutions for regions with delays and breaches in cancer care.

