

Somerset Cancer Register

This computer system is used by many UK NHS Trusts to help track a person's progress, and determine the Cancer Waiting Times targets. It is also used to document cancer Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings.

The data contained in the Somerset Cancer Register is collected by Manx Care to help ensure that you get the best possible care and treatment. The data is used to measure Manx Care's cancer performance, and also to submit information for the cancer-related datasets.

If you would like to find out more about the information and data collected by Manx Care, please visit <https://www.gov.im/about-the-government/statutory-boards/manx-care/manx-care-privacy-notice/>

To find out how the NHS and care service use confidential patient information to aid research and planning please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/where-confidential-patient-information-is-used/>

If you wish to exercise your right to opt out of sharing your confidential patient information please visit - <https://www.somersetft.nhs.uk/about-us/about-us/how-we-manage-your-information/national-data-opt-out/>

Useful contact details

The **Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service (MCISS)**, provides information, signposting and support for anyone affected by cancer. The MCISS is based in the Main Foyer of Noble's Hospital and open 9:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

You can drop in and chat to one of our Cancer Support Workers or trained volunteers. Alternatively you can phone 01624 **650735** or email MCISS@gov.im

Manx Care Advice and Liaison Service (MCALS)

If you want to share information about your experience, feedback on a service or staff member you have met,

have a query or wish to discuss or a concern about a Manx Care service you can speak with a member of MCALS. MCALS is open between 9:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays). You can get in touch via phone (01624) **642642** or email MCALS@gov.im

References

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/PRN00654-national-cancer-waiting-times-monitoring-dataset-guidance-v12.pdf>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/cancer/faster-diagnosis/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/changes-to-cancer-waiting-times-standards-from-1-october-2023/>

<https://news.cancerresearchuk.org/2023/08/17/breaking-down-nhs-englands-changes-in-standards-for-cancer-care/>

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/worried-about-cancer/>



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Your Urgent Suspected Cancer Referral – What to Expect?



Understanding Cancer Waiting Times

I have been referred on an urgent suspected cancer referral – What does this mean?

Your GP, dentist, optometrist (eye specialist) or hospital doctor has referred you to the specialist team to look into your symptoms further. You may need to see a specialist clinician or doctor, or have some tests to see what is causing your symptoms. Most people will not have cancer, but these symptoms need to be investigated as early diagnosis and treatment are important.

How quickly will I be seen?

Manx Care aims to offer you an appointment as quickly as possible. This may be an outpatient appointment, telephone appointment or a diagnostic test. There is a specialist team that track every suspected cancer referral to ensure that you are offered your appointment at the earliest opportunity. Manx Care monitor our Cancer Waiting Times, and we strive to achieve these, mirroring that of the UK. Our targets ensure that you are seen in a timely manner through first appointment, diagnosis and to any first treatment.


If you have not yet received details of your appointment please contact the Patient Information Centre, Noble's Hospital on 01624 650103. Please advise them that you are calling in relation to an urgent suspected cancer referral.


IMPORTANT – please check that your GP has your up to date address and contact details. If you have notified Noble's Hospital, your GP is not automatically informed, you must also advise them.


If you are unable to attend your appointment please contact the Patient Information Centre, Noble's Hospital as soon as you can to rearrange it. Tel: **01624 650103**.

What will happen at my appointment?

Details on what will happen at your first appointment, and anything you need to bring with you, will be sent with your appointment confirmation. The first appointment may be at an outpatient clinic where you see a specialist, or it could be a diagnostic test (such as a scan or scope), it could be a combination of both. In some cases, the specialist team will review your case and no tests will be needed.

 You may find it helpful to write down any questions you want to ask ahead of your appointment.

 You may also find it beneficial to take a friend or relative to the appointment for support.

 To find out more about the different diagnostic tests visit <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-symptoms/what-is-an-urgent-referral>

IMPORTANT - If your symptoms change, get worse or you get new symptoms please get in touch with your GP.

What is the Faster Diagnosis Standard (FDS)?

The Faster Diagnosis Standard is one of the Cancer Waiting Times targets.

It measures the time from the receipt of the urgent suspected cancer referral, through to the point in which a person is informed of their diagnosis. This could be a diagnosis of cancer, or hopefully the point that cancer has been ruled out.

You may be informed that you do not have cancer at your first appointment, or you may need additional tests. The pathway will vary from person to person, depending on their symptoms.

The target is that you should not wait more than 28 days to be informed of your diagnosis. If you have been waiting longer than you expected for your results, you can contact the specialist's secretary, your GP or the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service who can look into this for you.

What is the Referral to Treatment Standard?

The Referral to Treatment or RTT is another Cancer Waiting Times target.

It measures the time from the receipt of an urgent suspected cancer referral, through to the start of first definitive cancer treatment. **This is only for people who are given a cancer diagnosis.**

The RTT target also covers people with cancer who have an abnormal cancer screening result, or if their Consultant

suspects cancer because of their test results, and upgrades them onto a cancer pathway.

The target is that if you have a cancer diagnosis, you should commence cancer treatment within 62 days from your urgent referral (or upgrade).

What is the Decision to Treat to Treatment Standard?

The Decision to Treat to Treatment or DTT is the third Cancer Waiting Times target.

It measures the time from when the patient agrees to a particular treatment for their cancer, through to the start of first definitive cancer treatment. **This is only for people who are given a cancer diagnosis.**

The target is that if you have a cancer diagnosis, you should commence cancer treatment within 31 days from the point which you agree your treatment plan.

Why is Manx Care using the UK NHS Standards?

Manx Care uses the UK NHS National Cancer Waiting Times Monitoring Dataset Guidance to ensure that you receive the best possible care. By reporting our data in line with other organisations we are also able to compare our performance with other UK trusts. Some people will receive input from specialist trusts in the UK as part of their diagnosis and treatment, so it is important that we all report using the same monitoring processes.

How do we monitor our performance against the Cancer Waiting Times standards?

Each patient who is referred into Noble's Hospital as a suspected cancer is tracked along their pathway, through first appointment, diagnosis and onto first definitive treatment if diagnosed with cancer. Manx Care use a computer system called the Somerset Cancer Register to help monitor the patient's progress. Any delays to a person's pathway is identified and escalated internally to see if the delay can be avoided.