United Kingdom and Ireland (UKIACR) Performance Indicators 2018 report
UKIACR Analysis Group on behalf of the UKIACR Executive Committee

Background

All five UK and Ireland cancer registries extract data relating to a number of performance indicators to allow comparisons of the timeliness, quality and completeness of their data. This information is collated centrally and an annual report is published. For the 2018 report, Wales and Ireland have not participated due to delays in 2016 registrations from the implementation of new systems in their respective countries.

Methods

Data on all cancers diagnosed in 2016 were extracted on 31/01/2018 by each cancer registry and centrally analysed for the items illustrated in table 1 broken down by cancer type (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) where only the numbers recorded each year are documented). Rates and proportions are analysed to facilitate comparisons between registries, against a UKIACR average and where appropriate over time e.g. stability of incidence in the current year compared to the average of the three previous years. Registries have the opportunity to comment on the draft results and explain any changes over time or deviations from the average. Some indicators measured are as follows:

- Completeness of data items such as known date of diagnosis, date of birth, identification number, ethnicity and tumour behaviour code
- Completeness of screening category for breast, bowel and cervical cancers
- Completeness of stage at diagnosis by cancer type and morphology
- Proportion of death certificate only (DCO) cases
- Proportion of patients whose morphology code is non-specific, proportion of microscopically verified cases, the mortality to incidence ratios
- Proportion of tumours that have any treatment where treatment would be expected (i.e. childhood, early stage)

Results

Table 1 shows the executive summary of performance indicators for 2016 by country. Averages for the UK and Ireland, based on population and country, are also given. All cancers except non melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) were included unless otherwise specified.

Compared with 2010, data from 2016 (for all cancers excluding NMSC) shows:
- An increase in staging from 41.4% to 77.9%
- A decrease in death certificate only (DCO) rates from 1.5% to 0.4%
- An increase in known basis of diagnosis rates from 98.5% to 99.6%

The latest report details a large number of additional performance indicators including:
- An increase in registry recording of hormone therapy for breast cancer from 29.6% to 55.0%
- An increase in registry recording of hormone therapy for prostate cancer from 31.8% to 53.0%
- Large increases in incidence of malignant melanoma and breast in-situ with decreases in cervical and cervix in-situ cancers in 2016 compared with the average for 2013-2015

Conclusions

The quality and timeliness of data held by cancer registries has been documented over the past sixteen years in the United Kingdom with the past three years including Ireland. Areas for action were highlighted and data quality improved. Further information regarding the performance indicators can be found at www.ukiacr.org.

Acknowledgements

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Table 1   Executive Summary of 2016 data UKIACR performance indicators

	Key
	Target not reached or not in line with other registries
	Target attained

Indicator	Country average (population)	Country average (country)	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Stability: Percentage change (%) for all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) in 2016 compared with 2013-2015	0.2%	-0.4%	0.6%	4.1%	2.2%
Registry Creep: Percentage (%) for all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) of 2015 registrations at 31/01/2018 compared with registrations at 31/01/2017	1.3%	2.1%	1.1%	3.0%	2.1%
Staging: Proportion (%) of all cases (C00-C97 ex. C44) with valid known stage registered out of all 2016 registered cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44)	80.6%	77.9%	81.9%	67.2%	84.7%
Average of Core Patient Information Complete: Average percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with demographic information	98.5%	94.3%	99.1%	96.3%	87.5%
Average of Core Tumour Information Complete: Average percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with tumour information	97.3%	96.2%	97.4%	96.5%	94.6%
Diagnosing Hospital Known: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with an organisation of diagnosis	97.2%	91.7%	98.0%	93.5%	83.6%
Death Certificate Only (DCO) Rates: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered as a DCO	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%
Zero Day Survivors: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with the date of death equals the date of diagnosis	1.2%	0.9%	1.3%	0.6%	0.7%
Microscopically Verified: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) that are microscopically verified	85.2%	84.8%	85.3%	83.9%	85.3%
Non Specific Codes: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) that are microscopically verified with non specific morphology codes	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%
Grade: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with a known grade	60.2%	61.1%	60.2%	58.6%	64.4%
Treatment: Percentage (%) of all cancers (C00-C97 ex. C44) registered with any treatment	87.1%	79.2%	88.9%	69.5%	NA
Breast Screening Data: Percentage of breast cancer (C50) cases from 2015 screen detected for ages 50-64	45.1%	48.1%	44.3%	51.4%	48.4%
Cervical Screening Data: Percentage of cervical cancer (C53) cases from 2015 screen detected for ages 25-60	32.0%	37.7%	30.0%	45.3%	NA
Bowel Screening Data: Percentage of bowel cancer (C18-C20) cases from 2015 screen detected for ages 60-69	24.9%	25.9%	24.6%	27.1%	NA

Core Patient Information includes name, address, postcode, sex, date of birth, ethnicity, date of death, unique health identifier
Core Tumour Information includes date of diagnosis, site of primary growth, type of growth, behaviour of growth, basis of diagnosis, hospital of diagnosis
NA – not available (average excludes corresponding country)
DCO and zero day survivor rate targets: <2%
Staging target: > 70%