

The NHS Reforms and Efficiency Savings: An Early Assessment of Impact on Cancer Services in England

Client: Cancer Research UK

Lead contractor: Health Services Management Centre, Birmingham University

Description

As part of the project “An evaluation of the impact of NHS reforms and efficiency savings on cancer services in England” we provided three separate analytical reports (1) A Review of Cancer Patient Pathway Datasets, (2) A Review of Expenditure on Cancer Services and (3) A Review of Cancer and Diagnostic Test Waiting Times

In the first report we mapped out the various sources of data and described how these are gradually being consolidated by the National Cancer Intelligence Network into the National Cancer Data Repository. The second report analysed the NHS programme budgets across the period 2007/08 to 2010/11. This analysis revealed a slowing in the real rate of growth of the overall budget but a consistent proportional allocation to cancer services. The final report found that overall there has been an improvement in cancer waiting times with adverse quarterly movements more attributable to externalities than to policy shifts. Waiting times in imaging experienced some decline but appear to be returning to normal levels while the deterioration in waiting times for endoscopic investigations have not yet shown signs of a recovery.

Services provided

Research, data analysis, presentations and report writing.

Highlights

We provided the client with a number of simple indicators that can be used to monitor the service provision going forward.

Model available:

<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/publicpolicy/ourpolicypositions/treatment/nhs-reforms/>