

Is cancer diagnosed early enough in Orkney and Shetland?

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Compared to average: Better Similar Worse

Waiting for a diagnostic test³

A higher proportion of patients wait 6 weeks or less for a diagnostic test for cancer (99.8%) in Shetland HB than the Scottish average (96.9%). Early diagnosis is crucial to improving cancer survival, and quick access to diagnostic tests is important for the early diagnosis of cancer.

You could ask Shetland HB how it is planning to maintain this good performance.

Referral for treatment⁴

A similar proportion of patients (95.4%) referred to Shetland HB receive their first treatment for cancer within 62 days of an urgent GP referral compared to the Scottish average (94.5%), meeting the waiting time target of 95%. The speed at which patients receive their first treatment can be an indicator of clinical success.

You could ask Shetland HB how it is planning to maintain and improve cancer waiting times.

First treatment in 31 days⁵

The percentage of patients (98.8%) treated in Shetland HB that receive their first treatment within 31 days of a decision to treat is similar to the Scottish average (97.9%), meeting the waiting time target of 95%. The speed at which patients receive their first treatment can be an indicator of clinical success.

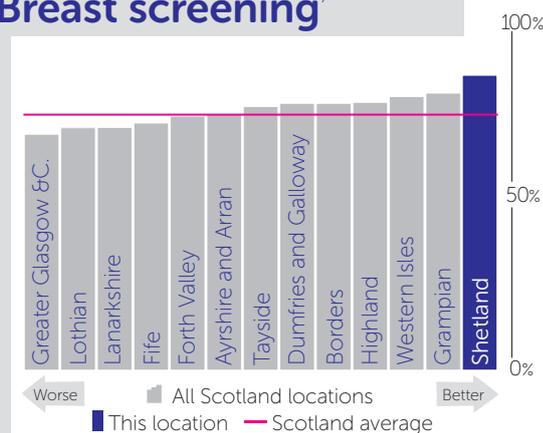
You could ask Shetland HB how it is planning to maintain and improve cancer waiting times.

Cancer awareness⁶

1 in 5 people in Scotland were not aware when prompted that a persistent cough or hoarseness is a symptom or sign of cancer. Initiatives such as Detect Cancer Early are key to ensuring cancer is diagnosed at a stage when treatment is more successful.

You could ask Shetland HB what they are doing to ensure people are aware of the symptoms and signs of cancer.

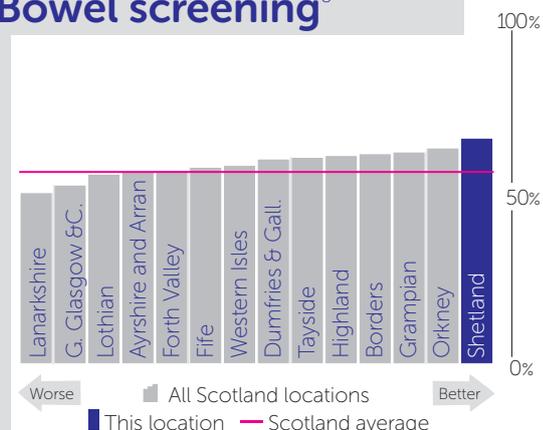
Breast screening⁷



The proportion of women aged 50-70 invited to breast cancer screening who attend is 84.4% in Shetland HB. This is better than the Scottish average (72.9%), and meets the target of 80% attendance. Screening remains one of the best ways to spot breast cancer earlier. Women are more likely to survive breast cancer if it is diagnosed at an earlier stage.

You could ask Shetland HB how it is promoting awareness and information about the breast cancer screening programme.

Bowel screening⁸



Bowel screening uptake is the proportion of people invited for screening who have been screened successfully. Bowel screening uptake amongst people aged 50-74 is 65.8% in Shetland HB. This is better than the Scottish average (56.1%), and meets the target of 60% attendance.

You could ask Shetland HB what their plans are to increase their levels of uptake and how it is promoting awareness and information about the screening programme.

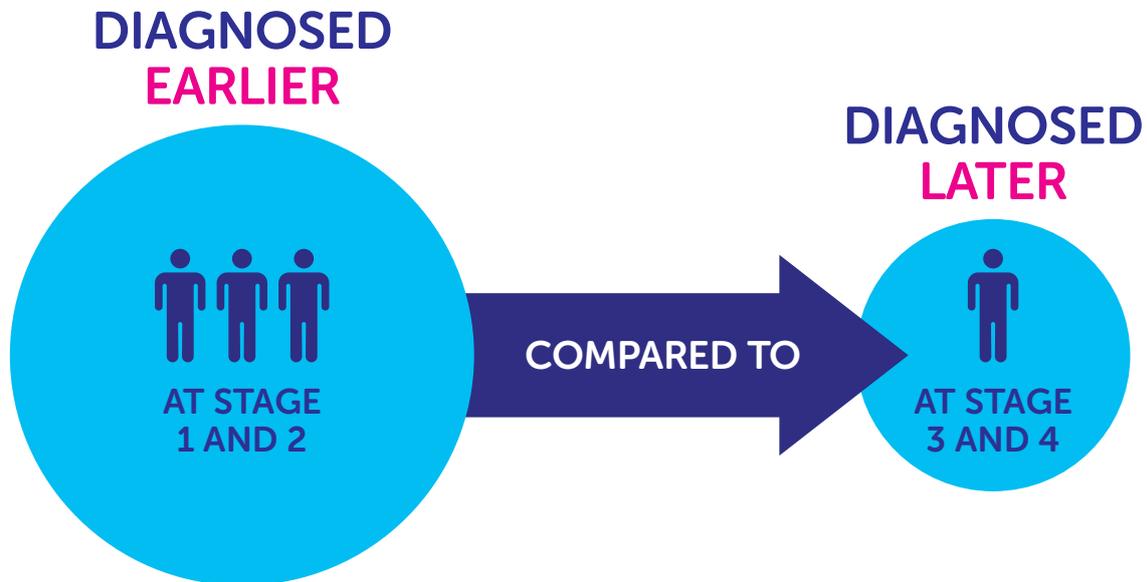
Measures are referred to as 'similar' when the difference from the average is not statistically significant.

For more information or other data, please contact the Policy Department on 020 3469 5536, or at publicaffairs@caner.org.uk.

June 2015. The data in this summary refers to Shetland Health Board (HB). We have chosen data most relevant to your constituency.

EARLY DIAGNOSIS SAVES LIVES

You are **3 times** more likely to survive cancer when...



Figures from the former Anglia cancer network, England, patients diagnosed 1996-2000.⁹

References

1. Information Services Division Scotland. Incidence (annual average of cases for 2009-2013). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Cancer/Cancer-Statistics/All-Types-of-Cancer/>
2. Information Services Division Scotland. Mortality (annual average of deaths for 2009-2013). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Cancer/Cancer-Statistics/All-Types-of-Cancer/>
3. Information Services Division Scotland. Waiting for a diagnostic test (based on average of 4 quarters' data covering January-September 2013). The tests included are MRI, CT, ultrasound, endoscopy, colonoscopy, cystoscopy and barium studies. Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Waiting-Times/Diagnostics/>
4. Information Services Division Scotland. Referral to treatment in 62 days (based on average of 4 quarters' data covering January – December 2013). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Waiting-Times/Cancer/>
5. Information Services Division Scotland. First treatment in 31 days (based on average of 4 quarters' data covering January – December 2013). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Waiting-Times/Cancer/>
6. Calculated by the Statistical Information Team at Cancer Research UK, 2015, using 2014 Cancer Awareness Measure (CAM) data. The CAM was developed by Cancer Research UK, University College London, Kings College London and University of Oxford in 2007-8. More information about the measure can be found at: http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/spotcancerearly/naedi/AboutNAEDI/Researchevaluationandmonitoring/naedi_cam/
7. Information Services Division Scotland. Uptake of breast screening (2011-2014). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Cancer/Breast-Screening/>. Confidence intervals were calculated by the Statistical Information Team at Cancer Research UK in 2014, using 2011-2014 population estimates from the General Register Office for Scotland. Available at: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>
8. Information Services Division Scotland. Uptake of bowel screening (2011-2013). Available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Cancer/Publications>
9. Personal communication. The National Cancer Registration Service, Eastern Office. Website: <http://ecric.org.uk/>