

Data and Quality – Breast Cancer

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Breast cancer survival and stage at diagnosis in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the UK, 2000-2007: a population-based study

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(ICBP – International Cancer Benchmarking Project)

Breast Cancer Survival - BJC 2013

- Data on 257,362 women diagnosed with breast cancer during 2000–7
- Registered in 13 population based cancer registries in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and UK
- Age-standardised 3-year net survival 87–89% in the UK and Denmark, and 91–94% in the other four countries
- Age-standardised net survival varied from
 - 94.3% in the UK to 98.4% in Sweden 1 year after diagnosis
 - 87.4% (UK) to 94.1% (Sweden) at 3 years
- Stage at diagnosis was relatively advanced in Denmark

Conclusion:

“International variation in breast cancer survival is partly explained by stage at diagnosis.

“In the UK, by contrast*, the stage distribution was relatively favourable, but stage-specific survival was lower than in other countries.

“This suggests that the low survival in the UK must be explained by other factors, such as the intensity and accuracy of staging, and access to or the effectiveness of stage-specific treatment.”

**with Denmark*