Cancer data flows in Public Health England (PHE)

From the PHE National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service

This data flow diagram illustrates how the National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service (NCRAS) collects cancer data and transforms it into impactful intelligence. NCRAS delivers a world-class cancer registration service for England and generates analyses to drive improvements in prevention, standards of care and clinical outcomes for patients.

Key outputs
- Publicly available Cancer data (incidence and mortality)
- Cancer site hubs
- Fingertips indicators
- Articles and reports

Key stakeholders
- Patients
- Public Health England
- NHS England and NHS Department of Health
- Central government
- Local government
- Health Education England Commissioners
- ONS | UKIACR | Charities
- International bodies
- EUROCARE | ENCR | IARC
- Researchers

Direct COSD feeds: trust level
- Patient administration systems
- Data from MDT software
- Pathology full-text reports
- Imaging systems

Indirect COSD feeds: national
- Cancer waiting times
- Systemic Anti-Cancer Dataset (SACT – chemotherapy)
- Radiotherapy Dataset (RTDS)

Other sources
- Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) – Hospital Episode Statistics (HES), Diagnostic Imaging Dataset (DID)
- Cancer screening programmes
- Office for National Statistics (ONS) – cancer, non-cancer deaths, populations
- National cancer audits
- National PET-CT imaging

Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset (COSD)
This is the national specification for standardised data fields to be collected by healthcare providers; applicable to some of the datasets below

National Cancer Registration Registration and Analysis Service (NCRAS)
NCRAS hosts Encore (the English National Cancer Online Registration Environment)
A single cancer registration system covering England

NCRAS is spread across eight regions
- East (Cambridge)
- East Midlands (Nottingham, Sheffield)
- London
- Northern and Yorkshire (York, Leeds)
- North West (Manchester)
- South East (Oxford)
- South West (Bristol, Salisbury)
- West Midlands (Birmingham)

Current datasets available in CAS
- Cancer registrations
- Radiotherapy (RTDS)
- Chemotherapy (SACT)
- Mortality
- ONS populations
- National audits
- Screening
- Hospital episode statistics (including admitted patient care, outpatients, A&E)
- Cancer waiting times (treatment and referral)
- Diagnostic imaging dataset (DID)
- Cancer Patient Experience Survey (CPES)
- Patient-reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)

Derived fields generated by using other available variables
- Ethnicity, routes to diagnosis, deprivation, comorbidities, vital status

NCRAS also receives cancer registrations from:
- The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry
- Information and Services Division Scotland
- and the Welsh Cancer and Intelligence Surveillance Unit

PHE Office for Data Release
Processing potentially identifiable data requests

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