

The Human and Financial Cost of Breast Cancer

Case Study

Breast Cancer Now commissioned YHEC to research the human and financial cost of breast cancer in the UK to inform materials the charity uses to engage stakeholders such as the government and the NHS.

Using historical and projected trends in breast cancer incidence and mortality, YHEC developed a series of simple economic models to estimate the healthcare costs associated with breast cancer and the impact on patient outcomes.

The results suggested that the absolute number of deaths attributable to breast cancer, which have been decreasing year-on-year for several decades, could begin to rise again in 2022.

The analysis also looked at geographical variation in breast cancer survival across England, using regional mortality data to estimate that over 1,100 deaths could be averted each year if all CCGs achieved the mortality rates of the top 25%.



In addition, our analysis found that it would cost approximately £9.3 million to meet the unrecognised need for nurses specialising in secondary breast cancer at 122 NHS Trusts across the UK.

The research was published in Breast Cancer Now's policy briefing and was reported by several national newspapers, including The Guardian and The Telegraph.



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