

Johnny Guirke TD  
Sinn Féin  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

e. [johnny.guirke@oireachtas.ie](mailto:johnny.guirke@oireachtas.ie)

8<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Re.**

**PQ3780/23: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of patients who had surgery for lung cancer; the number and proportion seen within the NCCP target timeframe for lung cancer surgeries in each quarter in each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ3783/23: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of patients who had surgery for prostate cancer; the number and proportion seen within the NCCP target timeframe for prostate cancer surgeries in each quarter in each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ3781/23: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of patients who had surgery for breast cancer; the number and proportion seen within the NCCP target timeframe for breast cancer surgeries in each quarter in each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ3784/23: To ask the Minister for Health the total number of patients who had surgery for pancreatic cancer; the number and proportion seen within the NCCP target timeframe for pancreatic cancer surgeries in each quarter in each of the years 2018 to 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Guirke,

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) collates a subset of aggregate data related to specific tumours, including data pertaining to rapid access services for people with suspected breast, lung and prostate cancer, and more limited data for a number of other tumour types.

The NCCP collects time to surgery Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data on breast, lung, prostate and pancreatic cancer surgery in patients where surgery is the first treatment. Time to surgery data is not suitable for reporting by quarter (as some data is only collected biannually or annually) but annual data is presented as follows:

Tumour	Time to Surgery	Target	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 Q1-Q2
Breast	Surgical intervention will be carried out within 20 working days of the date of the MDM when a B5 or C5 was first identified, provided surgery is the first treatment. Note: additional (%) figure shown below is when those outside target by reason of MRI are included as within target.	None	76.1% (81.5%)	77.5% (83.0%)	73.5% (80.6%)	71.9% (81.1%)	67.5% (77.9%)
	Total	*	1,363	1,347	1,526	1,552	619
Lung	Patients diagnosed with a primary lung cancer where surgery is the first treatment shall be offered an appointment for surgery within 25 working days of the date of the decision to operate by the multidisciplinary team.	None	65.1%	57.0%	54.5%	56.7%	71.8%
	Total	*	498	500	435	397	252
Prostate	Patients diagnosed with a primary prostate cancer, the interval between the date that the patient is placed on the waiting list for admission for surgery and the date of first surgical intervention where surgery is the first treatment, shall be less than or equal to 30 working days.	None	32.1%	31.1%	43.2%	46.6%	Data not due as returned annually in April
	Total	*	368	440	521	491	*
Pancreas	Surgical intervention in new patients with proven or suspected pancreatic cancer, where surgery is the first treatment, will be carried out within 20 working days of the MDM decision.	None	66.2%	69.6%	54.0%	50.0%	68.8%
	Total	*	65	69	63	60	32

The data above is presented as the percentage of total patients treated within the recommended timeframe and the total number of patients undergoing surgery.

Please note that the data for 2022 is not complete and is subject to change.

Yours sincerely



Patrick Cafferty  
Assistant National Director  
National Cancer Control Programme

