



# **Annual Report 2020**

The aim of the NABCOP is to evaluate process of care and outcomes for women, aged 70 years and over, diagnosed with breast cancer in England and Wales.

# 185,648

women aged 50+ years diagnosed with breast cancer across England and Wales in 2014–2018.

What is the breakdown by age for women diagnosed with breast cancer between 2014–2018?

61%



39%

aged 50-69 aged 70+ years years



How did women in England rate their overall care according to the Cancer Patient Experience Survey?



rated their overall care as 7 or higher on a scale of zero (very poor) to 10 (very good).



**68%** of women were estimated to have received triple diagnostic assessment in a single visit, with no difference by age at diagnosis.



**96%** of women had reported contact with a clinical nurse specialist, with minimal difference by age group.

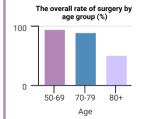
## Treatment allocation by type of breast cancer across England and Wales

# Early invasive breast cancer

138,099 women

62% aged 50-69 years

**38**% aged 70+ years



The percentage of women aged **70+** who had breast surgery varied by **NHS organisation**.

Women aged **70+** with **ER negative breast cancer** were more likely to receive surgery compared with women with **ER positive breast cancer**.



Among women who had breast conserving surgery:

91% of women aged 50-69 received radiotherapy

83% of women aged 70+ received radiotherapy



Among women who had **mastectomy** for high risk early invasive breast cancer:

68% of women aged 50-69 received radiotherapy

60% of women aged 70+ received radiotherapy

Use of chemotherapy was lower for older women and for women with **ER positive breast cancer**.



### Ductal carcinoma in situ

19,819 women

**78%** aged 50-69 years



**21%** aged 70+ years



94%

of women aged 50-69 had surgery

**82**%

of women aged 70+ had surgery

There was greater variation across **NHS organisations** in surgery rates for women aged **70+** compared with women aged **50-69**.



63%

of women aged **50–69** received radiotherapy\*

47%

of women aged **70+** received radiotherapy\*

Rates of radiotherapy after surgery varied across **NHS** organisations for women of all ages.

\*after breast conserving surgery

### Metastatic breast cancer

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**41%** aged 50–69 years



**59**% aged 70+ years

Older women were more likely to present with metastatic breast cancer:

3% of women aged 50-69; 7% of women aged 70-79; 8% of women aged 80+



Fewer older women received chemotherapy compared with younger women.
Rates of chemotherapy use varied across NHS organisations for women of all ages.

#### GLOSSARY

**Breast conserving surgery (BCS):** an operation to remove a discrete lump or abnormal area of tissue from the breast without removing all breast tissue.

**Chemotherapy:** a drug therapy used to treat cancer, given either before or after surgery.

ER positive/negative: breast cancer cells can have receptors to estrogen on their surface. Breast cancers which have these receptors are called ER positive.

Mastectomy: an operation for breast cancer to remove all of the breast tissue.

Radiotherapy: high-energy x-ray beams to kill cancer cells.