

The Audit received information about

**605**

patients in England

diagnosed with high-grade dysplasia of the oesophagus between April 2018 and March 2020.

**Patient characteristics**

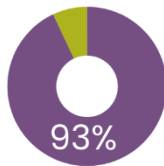


- Median age: 71 years
- 73% male
- 1 in 2 had at least one comorbidity at time of diagnosis
- 81% had a segment of Barrett's oesophagus
- 58% were diagnosed while on surveillance programmes and 42% via referral

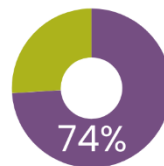
**Recommended process of care**



of patients had their diagnosis confirmed by a second pathologist



of patients were discussed at a multidisciplinary team meeting



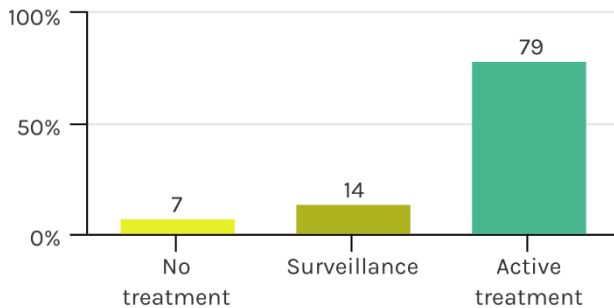
of patients had a plan for endoscopic therapy



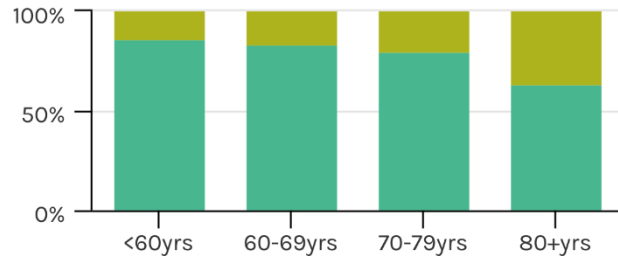
56% of patients placed under surveillance were unfit for active treatment

**Primary treatment plan**

Primary treatment among patients diagnosed between 2018 and 2020



● Active Treatment ● Surveillance or no treatment



The choice of an active treatment compared to surveillance or no treatment varied by age at diagnosis.

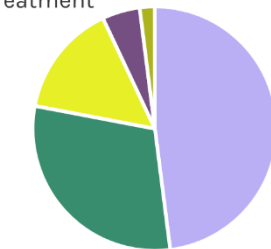
**Outcomes of endoscopic treatment**

Outcomes after endoscopic mucosal resection / endoscopic submucosal dissection in 2019/20

14% of endoscopic resections had positive deep margins (HGD cells present at the base of the removed specimen)

18% of endoscopic resections had positive lateral margins (HGD cells present at the side edges of the removed specimen)

Plan after primary endoscopic treatment



- Surveillance
- Further ablative therapy
- Further EMR/ESD
- Refer for oesophagectomy
- No further treatment

**Glossary**

**Barrett's oesophagus** - Changes in the cells on the inner lining of the lower part of the oesophagus.

**EMR/ESD** - endoscopic mucosal resection/ endoscopic submucosal dissection - Procedures to remove abnormal tissue from the digestive tract using a telescopic camera to guide instruments.

**High-grade dysplasia** of the oesophagus - The presence of severely abnormal cells (precancerous cells) in the lining of the oesophagus. It can turn into cancer if it is left untreated.

The Audit received information about

**20,319**

patients in England and Wales

diagnosed with oesophago-gastric (OG) cancer between April 2018 and March 2020, including 14,708 patients with oesophageal cancer and 5,611 patients with gastric cancer.

**Patient characteristics**

**Oesophageal cancer**

- Median age: 72 years
- 71% male
- 41% stage 4 cancer

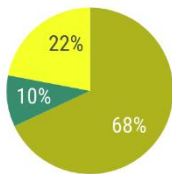


**Stomach cancer**

- Median age: 74 years
- 66% male
- 43% stage 4 cancer

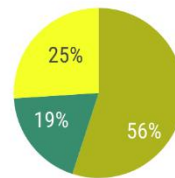
**Routes to diagnosis**

**Oesophageal cancer**



- GP referral
- Emergency admission
- Other hospital setting

**Stomach cancer**



Patients with stomach cancer are more likely to be diagnosed following an emergency admission than patients with oesophageal cancer.

Adjusted rates of emergency diagnosis have remained largely unchanged over the last five audit years.

**Waiting times**



Median waiting times from referral to start of treatment have not improved over the last five Audit years, for both curative and non-curative treatments.

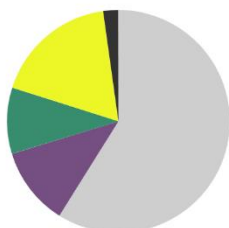
Waiting times were excessive for a significant proportion of patients in many regions.

Among patients diagnosed with OG cancer in 2018-2020:



**Nutritional management**

Among patients diagnosed with OG cancer in 2019-2020, 79.9% received dietetic support between diagnosis and treatment. The majority of these patients had advice from a specialist OG dietitian:



- Specialist OG dietitian
- General dietitian
- Dietitian (unspecified)
- Dietitian not required
- No dietitian available

**Outcomes of curative surgery**

**Oesophagectomy**

Median length of stay  
**11 days**

90-day mortality  
**3.6%**

Positive longitudinal margins  
**4.0%**

**Gastrectomy**

Median length of stay  
**9 days**

90-day mortality  
**2.4%**

Positive longitudinal margins  
**8.8%**

**Glossary**

**Stage 4 cancer** - This describes advanced cancers which have spread beyond the site of the original tumour to other organs/parts of the body. Treatment options are limited to therapies that might extend life or control symptoms but are unlikely to result in remission.

**Oesophagectomy** - The surgical removal of all or part of the oesophagus.

**Gastrectomy** - A surgical procedure to remove either a section or all of the stomach.

**Margins** - The edge of the tissue that is removed during surgery. A positive margin means that there are cancer cells at the edge of the removed tissue and more surgery may be needed.