

Publication Summary



Scottish Bowel Screening Programme Statistics

For invitations between 1 November 2011 and 31 October 2013

Publication date – 26 August 2014



About this Release

This is an annual update of bowel screening statistics for the period 1 November 2011 to 31 October 2013 including uptake, laboratory and clinical outcomes.

Key points

For the two-year period November 2011 to October 2013:

- In Scotland the bowel screening uptake was 56.1%, an increase of 1.2 percentage points compared with the two-year period November 2010 to October 2012. Uptake for females was 58.8% and for males was 53.3%. The Healthcare Improvement Scotland standard for bowel screening uptake is 60%.
- Uptake was lower in areas of higher deprivation. Uptake for females in the two least deprived quintiles exceeded the 60% standard at 68.0% and 64.8%, respectively. Uptake for males living in the least deprived quintile was at 61.5%. For males living in the most deprived quintile the uptake was 41.7%.
- More than half of screen detected cancers (57.8%) were diagnosed at Dukes' stage A and B. The earlier a cancer is detected the greater the chances are of successful treatment.
- 6.7% of men and 6.0% of women who had a positive bowel screening test result (and who went on for further investigations) had either polyp cancer or invasive bowel cancer.

Background

The Scottish Bowel Screening Programme commenced a phased roll out in June 2007 and by December 2009 all NHS Boards in Scotland were participating in the Programme.

This publication relates to men and women registered with a Community Health Index (CHI) number aged between 50-74 years who are invited to participate and to be screened

every two years. Eligible people are posted a screening kit which is completed at home and involves collecting 2 samples from each of three separate bowel movements. The kit is then returned to the central screening centre in Dundee and tested for hidden traces of blood in the stool. From 1st April 2013 those over the age of 74 can now self-refer and opt into bowel screening.

In February 2012 the Scottish Government formally launched the Detect Cancer Early programme with the aim of increasing the early detection of cancer by 25%. The target concentrates on breast, colorectal (bowel) and lung cancers. Part of this initiative has been focussing on raising awareness of bowel screening.

The publication report summarises the [Key Performance Indicators](#) (KPIs) which are a series of measures used to monitor and evaluate the [Scottish Bowel Screening Programme](#).

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

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