

Breast Cancer Screening Coverage (50-64)

Basic Facts

Stage of development

Implemented

Potential or current usage

This measure has been part of the PHO Performance Programme's National Indicator Set since 1 January 2006 and is used to measure how many women aged 50 to 64 years have had a mammography within the last 2 years.

Brief overview of the measure

General description

This measure focuses on the number of women aged between 50 and 64 years who have had a mammography within the last 2 years.

Rationale for selection

Early detection and treatment of breast cancer lowers the rate of death from breast cancer. The national breast screening programme (BreastScreen Aotearoa) recommends women aged 45 to 69 have 2 yearly mammograms.

Domain(s) of quality

Effectiveness, Efficiency

Application and interpretation of the measure

Stated intent of the measure

Ensuring appropriate follow up of patients that are eligible for a mammogram.

Caveats - Considerations

Only publicly funded mammography screenings performed by BreastScreen Aotearoa health carers are 'counted' by the PHO Performance Programme. Private mammography screenings are not counted. Some regions have infrequent access to mammography screenings due to the remoteness of their location. There is also no allowance in the measurement of this indicator for women who have had mastectomies.

Links to other measures

A-BS01 Breast cancer screening coverage (45 - 69) CA-BS03 Breast cancer screening coverage (50 - 69)

Level of health care delivery/setting

This measure is currently reported by the PHO Performance Programme to PHO level although use of this measure to monitor practice and patient level performance is also possible.

Target population

All women aged 50 to 64 years who are within the high need population (identified as Māori, Pacific Island and/or Decile 9 or 10).

Stratification by vulnerable populations

The PHO Performance Programme currently uses this measure to monitor at both a total PHO enrolled population level (all PHO enrolled eligible patients) and a high need PHO enrolled population level (whereby high need is identified as Māori, Pacific Island and/or Decile 9 or 10).

Calculation of the measure

Output of calculation

Percentage of women aged 50 to 64 years who have received a screening mammogram from a Breast Screen Aotearoa provider in the past two years

Numerator description

The number of women enrolled with a PHO aged 50 to 64 years who have received a screening mammogram from a Breast Screen Aotearoa provider in the past 2 years

Numerator exclusions

Only those mammograms taken by a Breast Screen Aotearoa provider count in the coverage rate calculated by the PHO Performance Programme. The Ministry of Health is keen to support screenings that occur through the public system because it has an assurance of the quality of the mammogram provided and the advice given. However it does mean that the breast screening rates may appear lower than they actually are and will have a disproportionate impact on certain regions.

Denominator description

The number of women enrolled with a PHO aged 50 to 64 years

Time period

2 years

Criteria/standard for optimal performance

Every practice within a PHO should have a process in place for identifying / recalling women that are due for a mammography and following through to ensure the service has taken place. The PHO Performance Programme goal is: 70% or more of the PHO's target population have had a mammography within 2 years.

Data source

PHO patient enrolment registers and the National Screening Unit's breast screening register.

Method of extraction

The link below will take you to the document that defines how the measure is calculated - see 'Breast Cancer Screening Coverage' section of the Indicator Definitions for PHOs document. <http://www.dhbnz.org.nz/Site/SIG/pho/Operational-Documents.aspx>

Appraisal of the measure

Development approach

Initial selection of this indicator in 2005 was done by the Ministry of Health using a consensus process. Since then the indicator has been reviewed and refined in consultation with the PHO Performance Programme Advisory Group - refer to link for current membership list All changes have been endorsed by the PHO Performance Programme Governance Group - refer to link for current membership list

Other items

Owner details

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850

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