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# Recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer in Northern Ireland

**March 2022 update**

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## Further information

Further information is available at: [www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr](http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr)

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## Acknowledgements

The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (NICR) is funded by the Public Health Agency and is based in Queen's University, Belfast.

NICR uses data provided by patients and collected by the health service as part of their care and support.



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## SUMMARY

### Recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer: March 2022

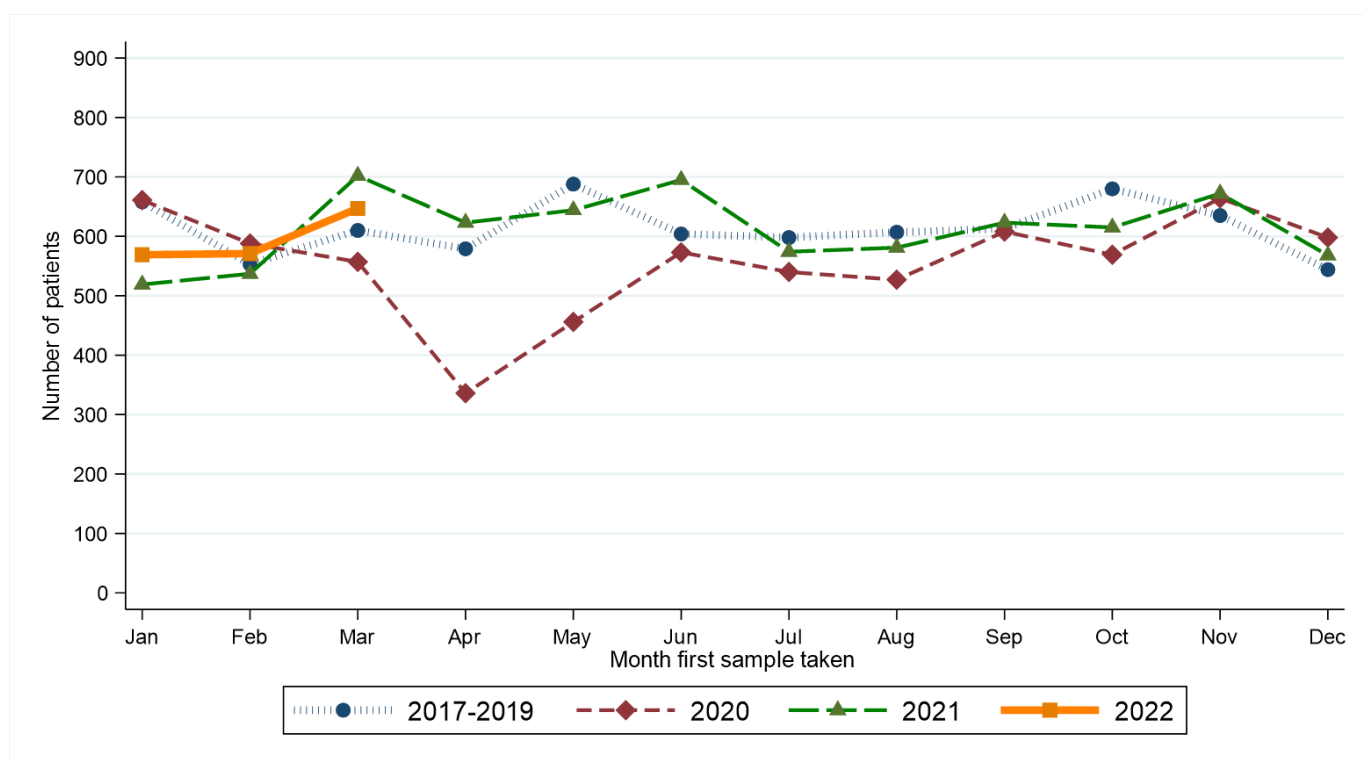
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) whose first sample was taken from January 2020 to March 2022 in Northern Ireland.

These trends are contrasted with the annual average number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) during 2017-2019 in order to provide an indication of the potential impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on diagnostic cancer services.

Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples in Jan-Apr 2021.**

#### CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 (Excludes Altnagelvin)

From March 2020 to March 2022 the number of patients with a pathological sample indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 5.1% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



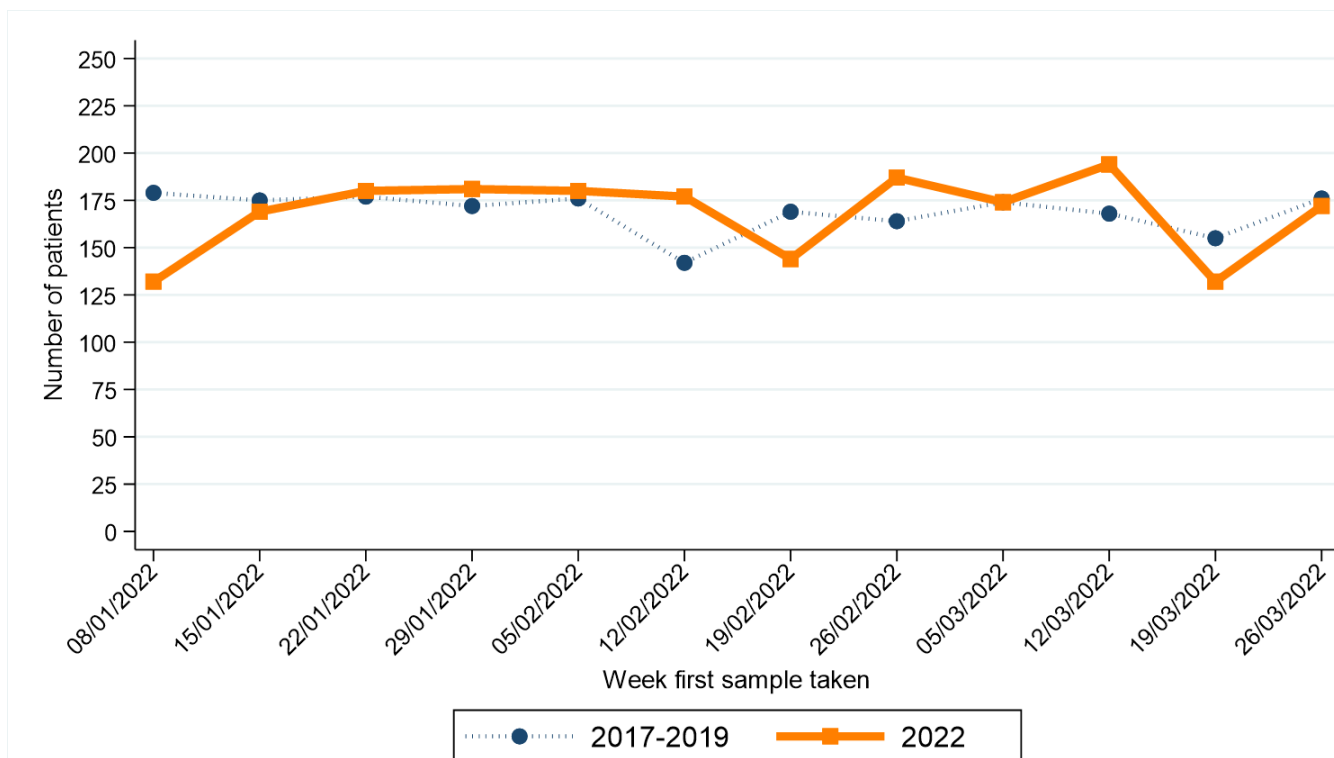
From March 2020 to March 2022 there was a 5.2% decrease among males and a 4.9% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.9% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 3.9% among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to March 2022 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer decreased by 21.6%. Increases were recorded for haematological cancer, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.



### **RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS (Includes Altnagelvin)**

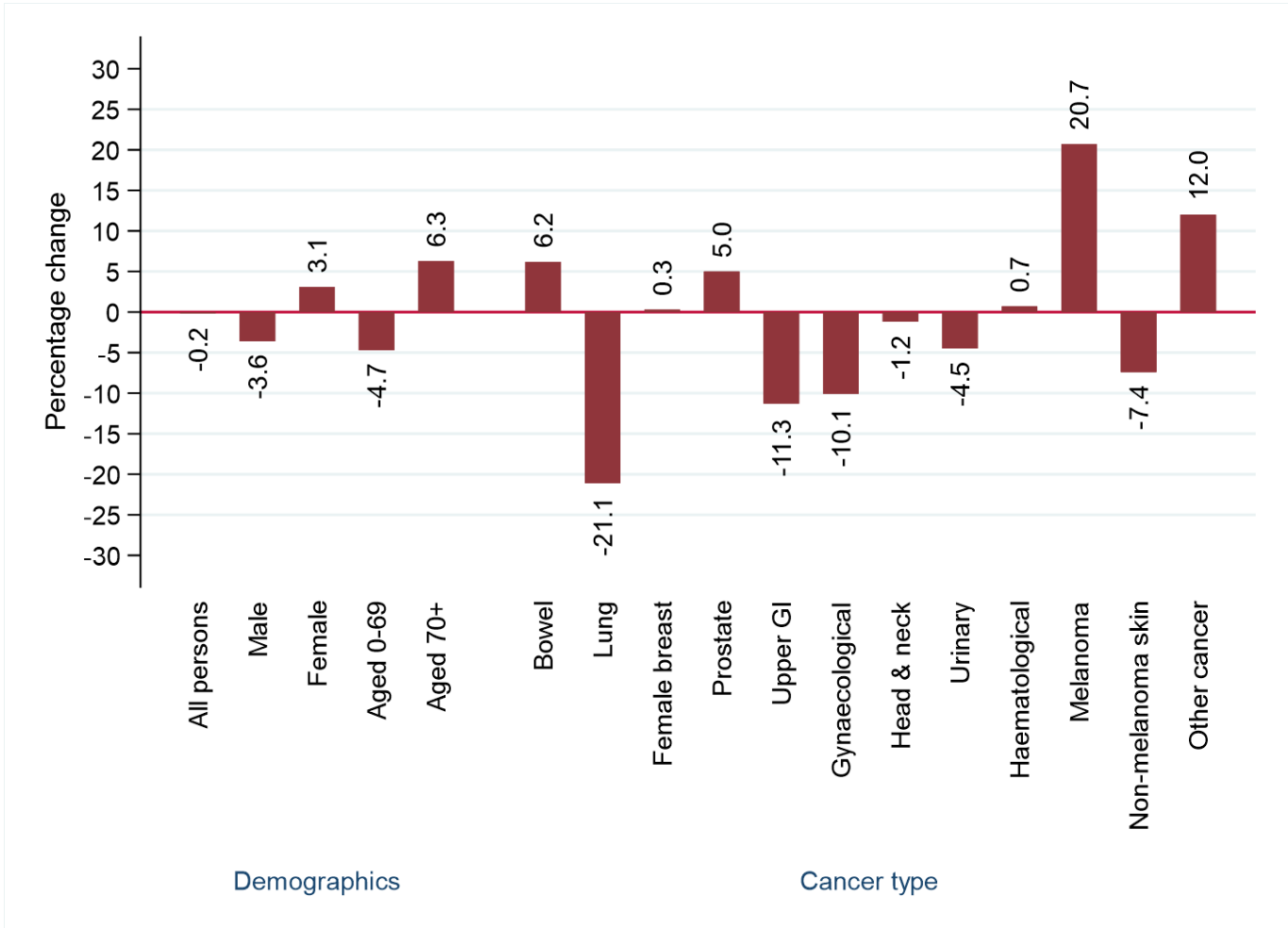
There was a 0.2% decrease in the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019.



Note: Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years

In the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 there was a 3.6% decrease among males and a 3.1% increase among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 4.7% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was an increase of 6.3% among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to March 2022 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer decreased by 21.1%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, female breast cancer, prostate cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for upper gastrointestinal cancer and gynaecological cancer.

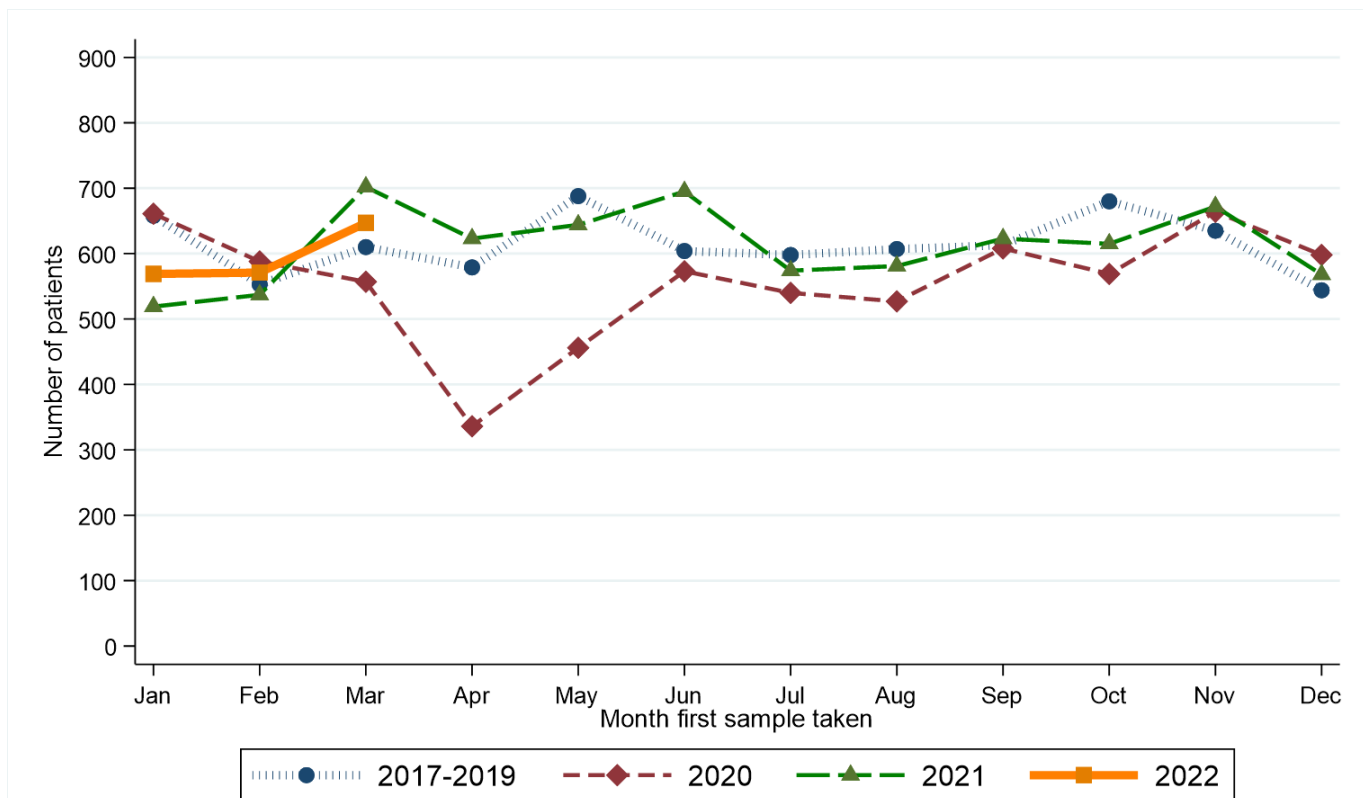


# ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-5.1%**



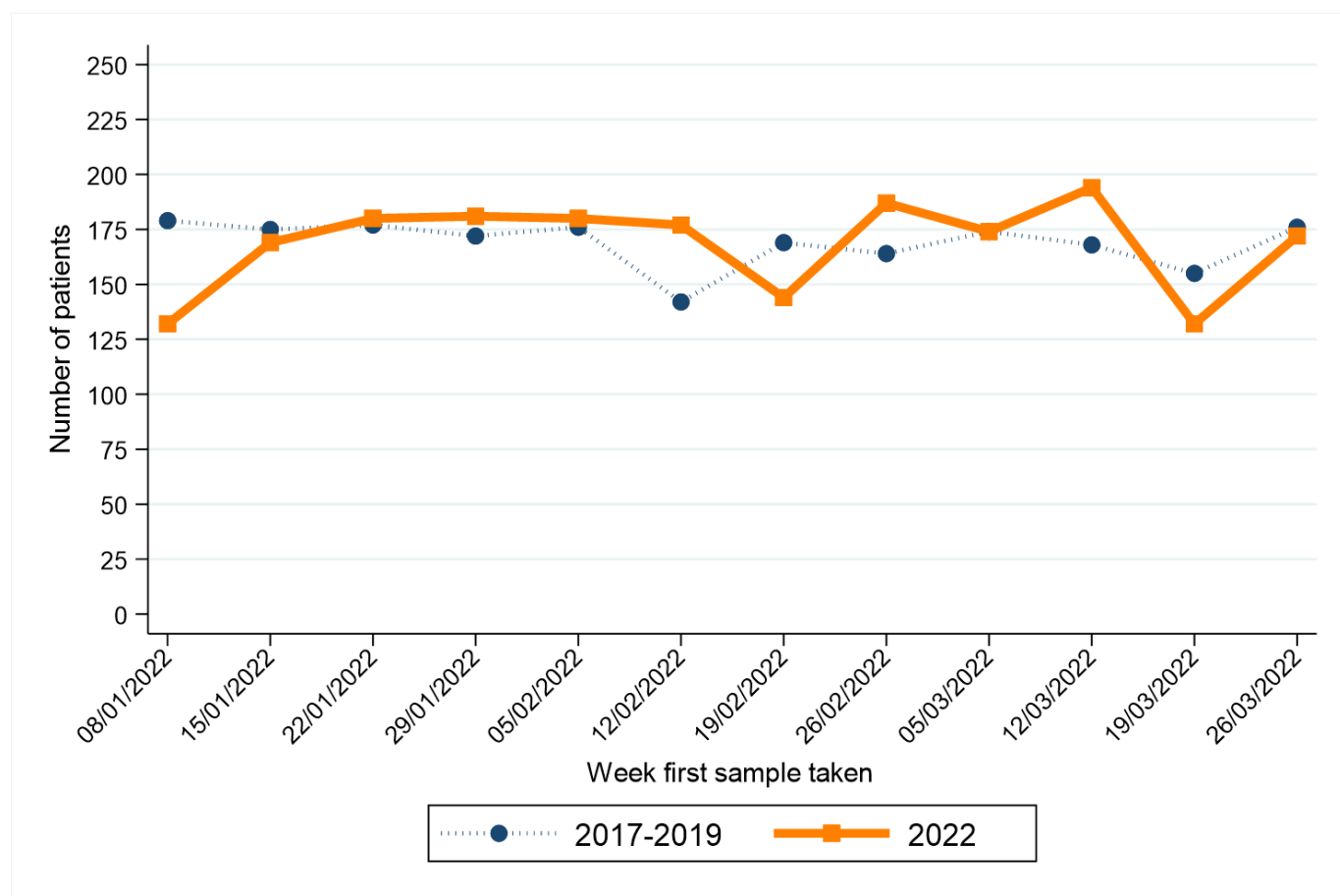
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	658	661	519	569
Feb	553	588	537	571
Mar	610	557	702	647
Apr	579	336	623	.
May	688	456	644	.
Jun	604	573	695	.
Jul	598	540	574	.
Aug	607	527	581	.
Sep	613	608	623	.
Oct	680	569	615	.
Nov	635	664	672	.
Dec	544	598	568	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-0.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	179	132
15/01/2022	175	169
22/01/2022	177	180
29/01/2022	172	181
05/02/2022	176	180
12/02/2022	142	177
19/02/2022	169	144
26/02/2022	164	187
05/03/2022	174	174
12/03/2022	168	194
19/03/2022	155	132
26/03/2022	176	172

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

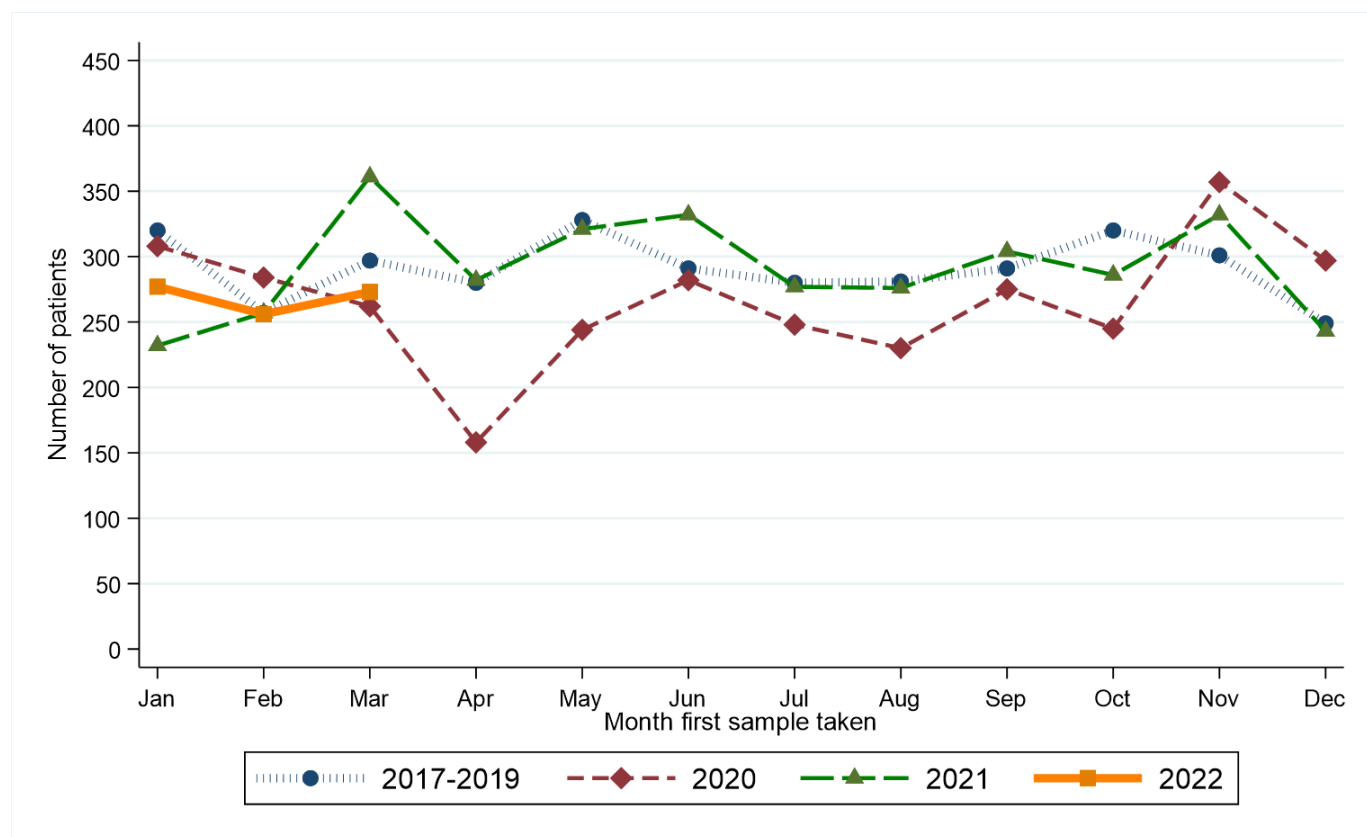
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-5.2%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	320	308	232	277
Feb	257	284	257	256
Mar	297	262	361	273
Apr	280	158	282	.
May	328	244	321	.
Jun	291	282	332	.
Jul	280	248	277	.
Aug	281	230	276	.
Sep	291	275	304	.
Oct	320	245	286	.
Nov	301	357	332	.
Dec	249	297	243	.

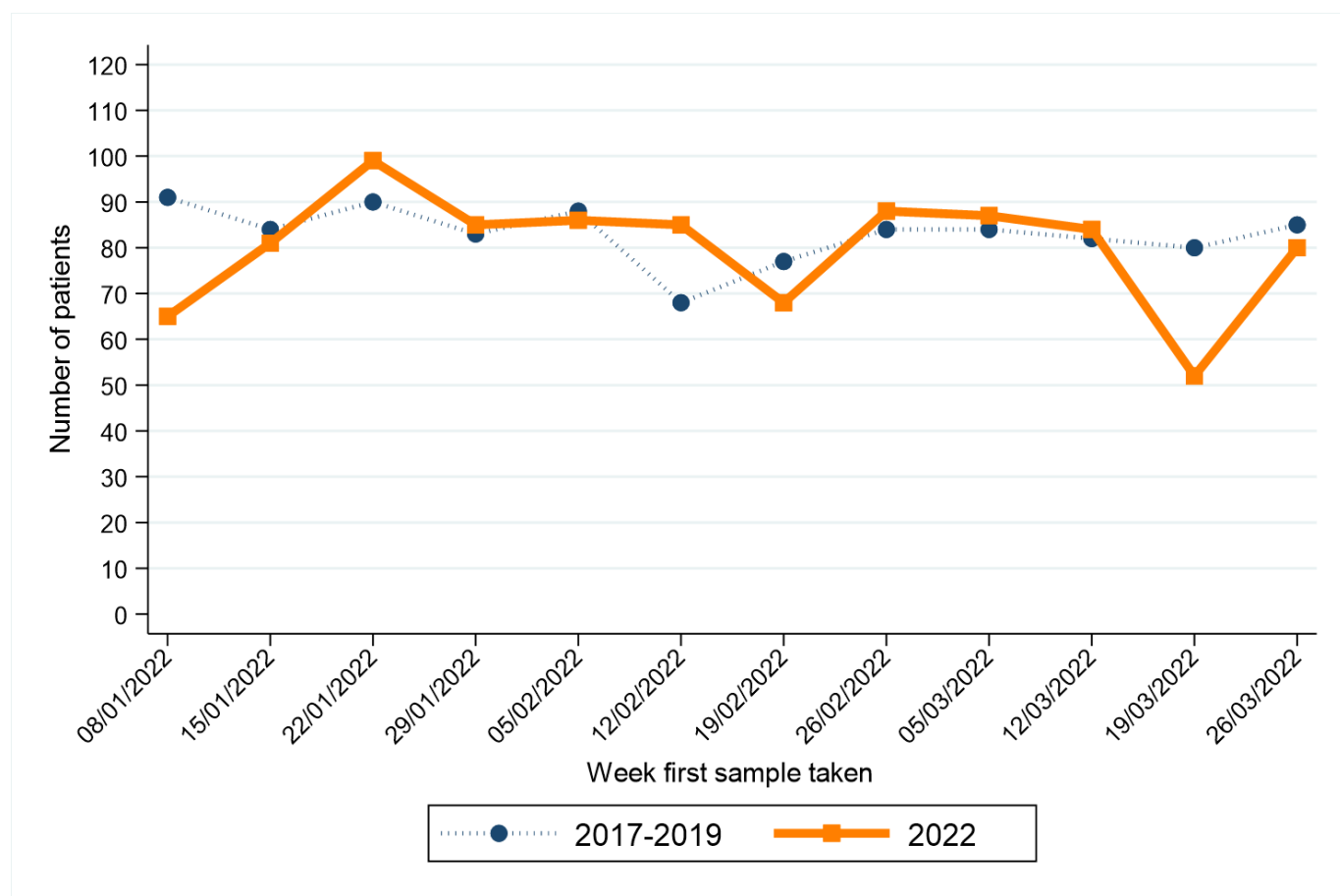
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.6%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	91	65
15/01/2022	84	81
22/01/2022	90	99
29/01/2022	83	85
05/02/2022	88	86
12/02/2022	68	85
19/02/2022	77	68
26/02/2022	84	88
05/03/2022	84	87
12/03/2022	82	84
19/03/2022	80	52
26/03/2022	85	80

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

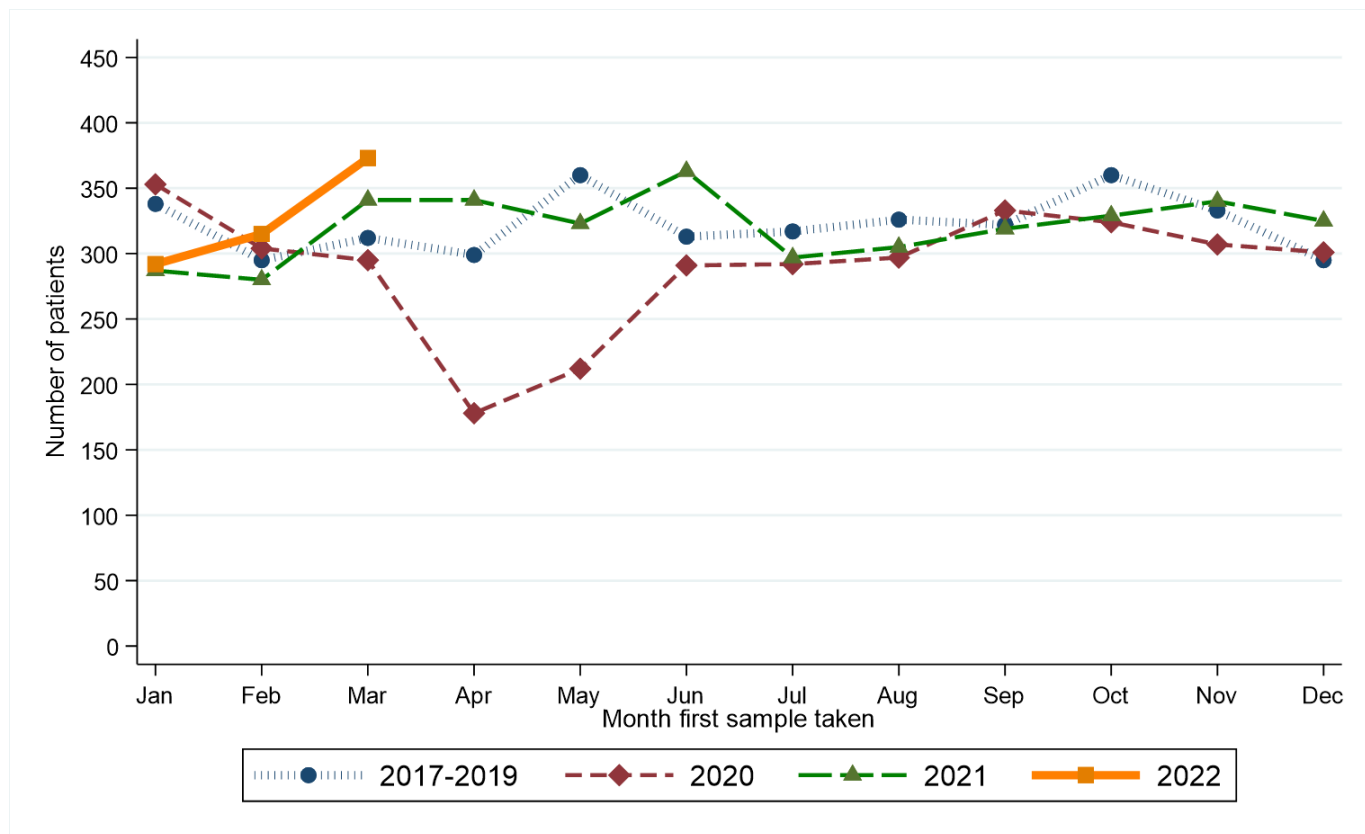
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.9%**



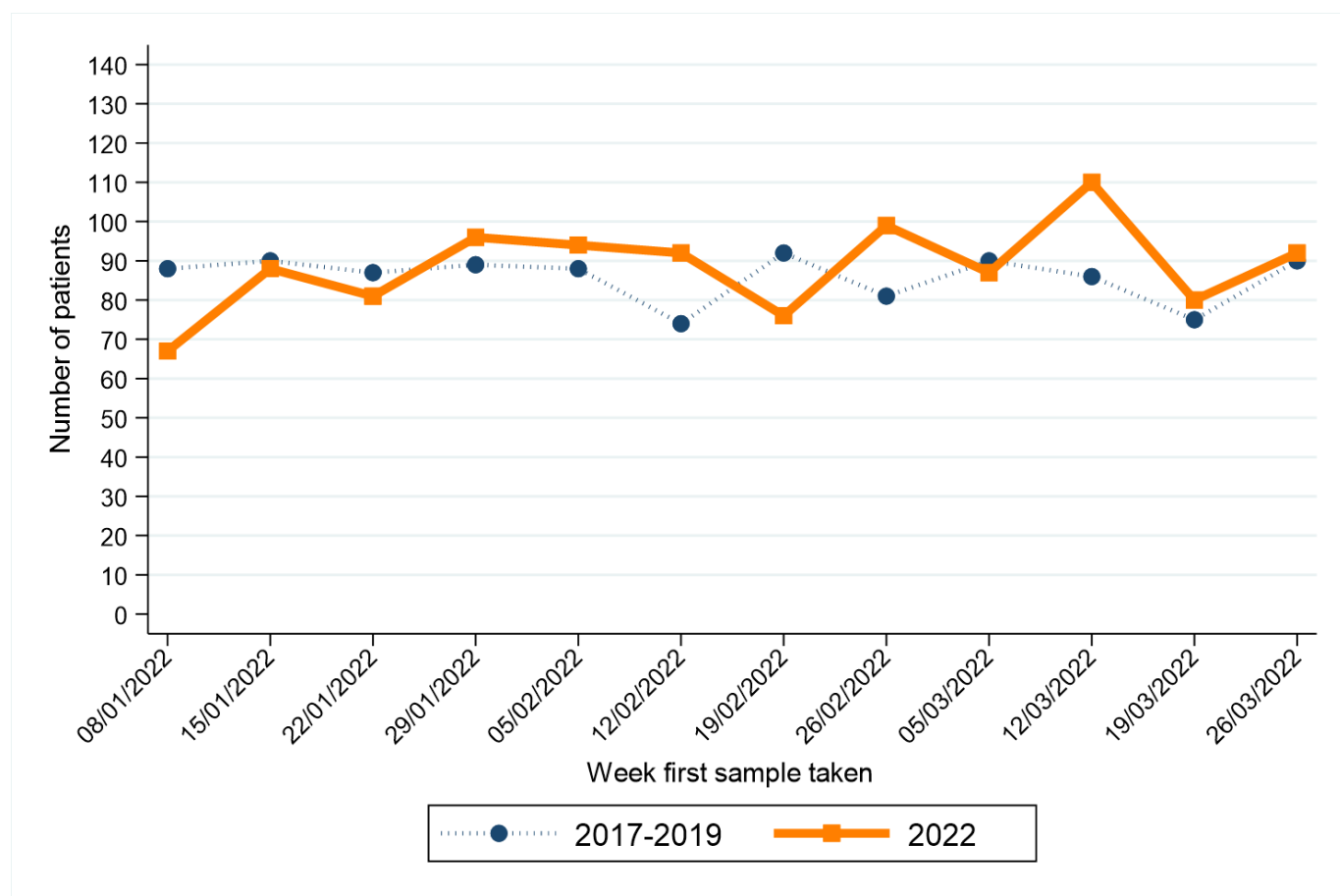
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	338	353	287	292
Feb	295	304	280	315
Mar	312	295	341	373
Apr	299	178	341	.
May	360	212	323	.
Jun	313	291	363	.
Jul	317	292	297	.
Aug	326	297	305	.
Sep	322	333	319	.
Oct	360	324	329	.
Nov	333	307	340	.
Dec	295	301	325	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+3.1%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	88	67
15/01/2022	90	88
22/01/2022	87	81
29/01/2022	89	96
05/02/2022	88	94
12/02/2022	74	92
19/02/2022	92	76
26/02/2022	81	99
05/03/2022	90	87
12/03/2022	86	110
19/03/2022	75	80
26/03/2022	90	92

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

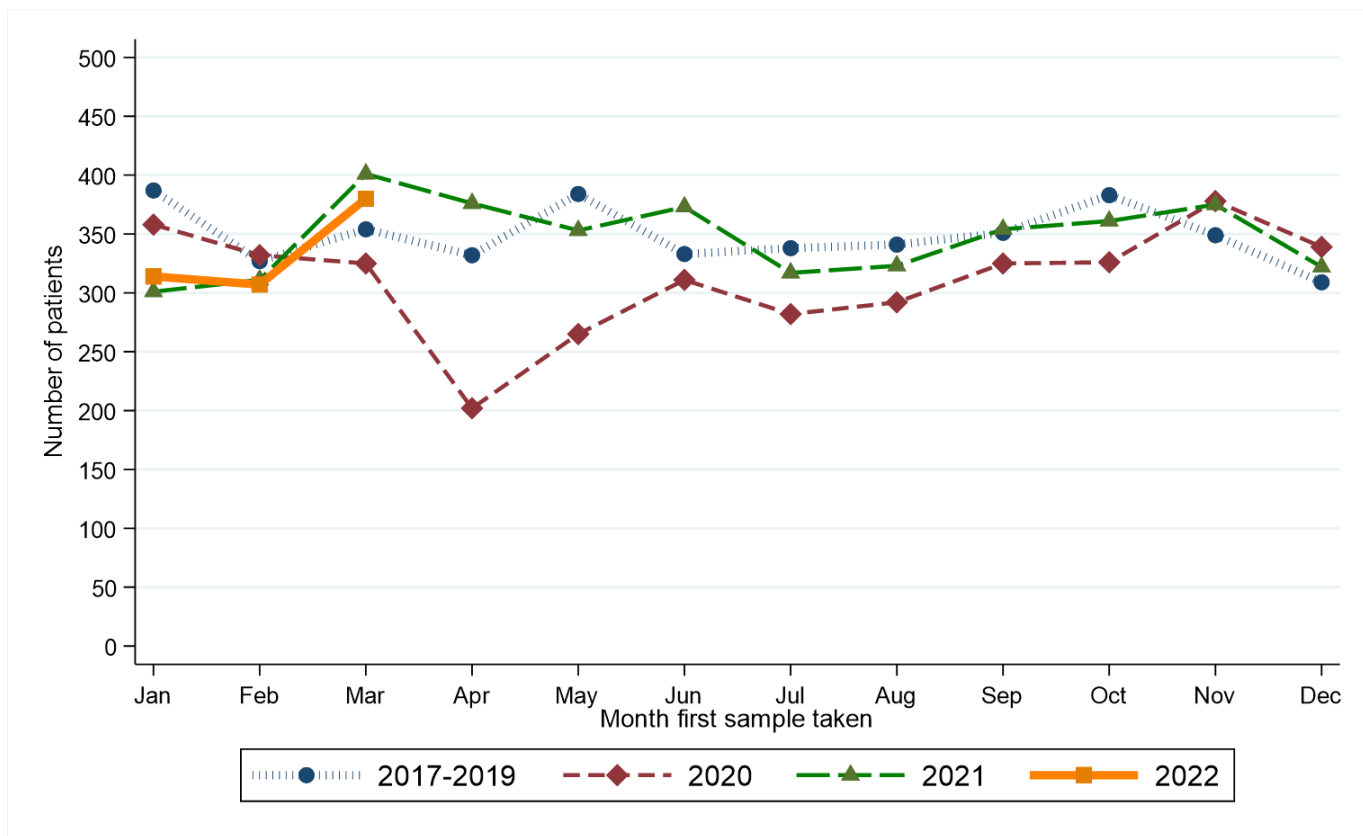
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-5.9%**



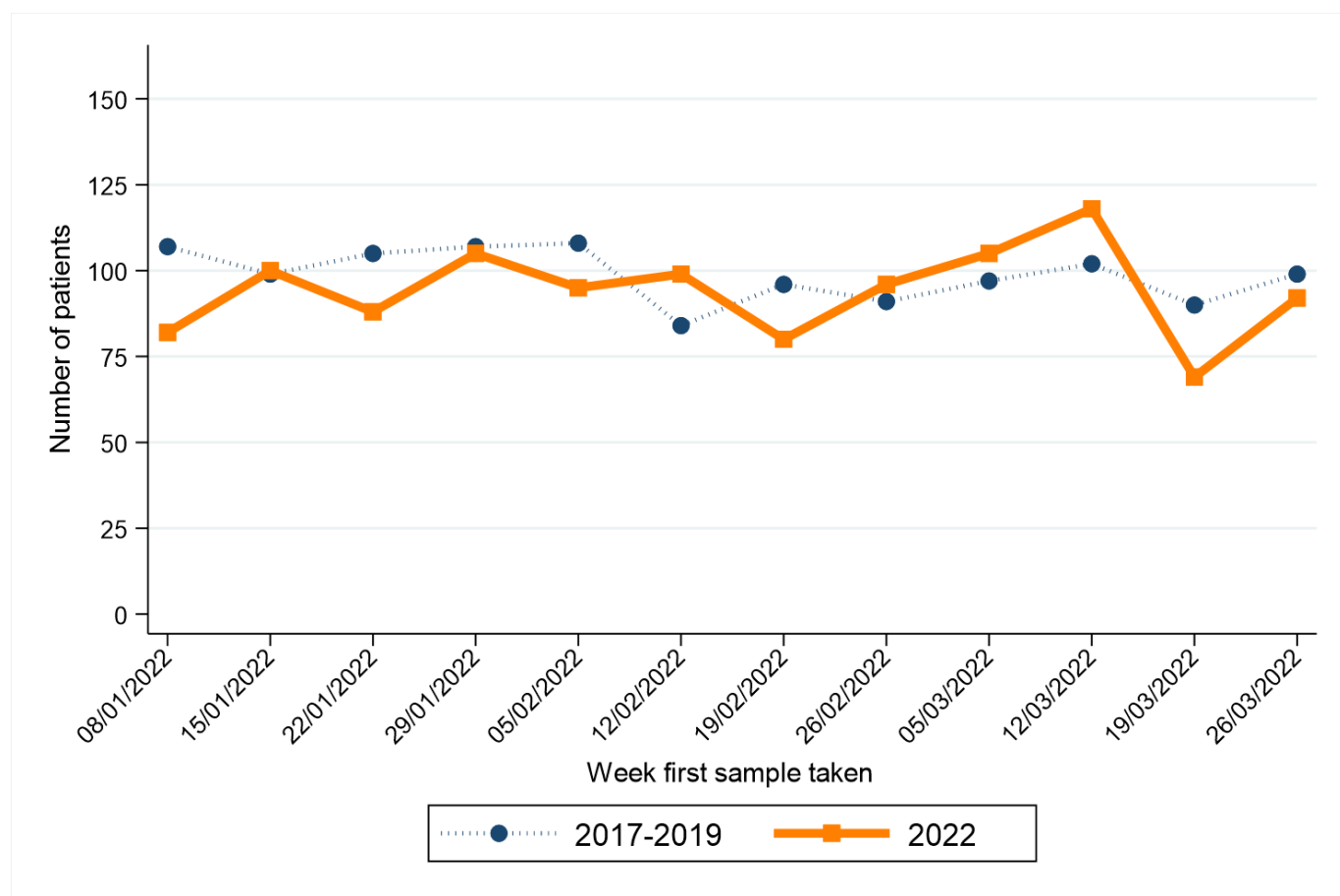
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	387	358	301	314
Feb	327	332	311	307
Mar	354	325	401	380
Apr	332	202	376	.
May	384	265	353	.
Jun	333	311	373	.
Jul	338	282	317	.
Aug	341	292	323	.
Sep	351	325	354	.
Oct	383	326	361	.
Nov	349	378	375	.
Dec	309	339	322	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	107	82
15/01/2022	99	100
22/01/2022	105	88
29/01/2022	107	105
05/02/2022	108	95
12/02/2022	84	99
19/02/2022	96	80
26/02/2022	91	96
05/03/2022	97	105
12/03/2022	102	118
19/03/2022	90	69
26/03/2022	99	92

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

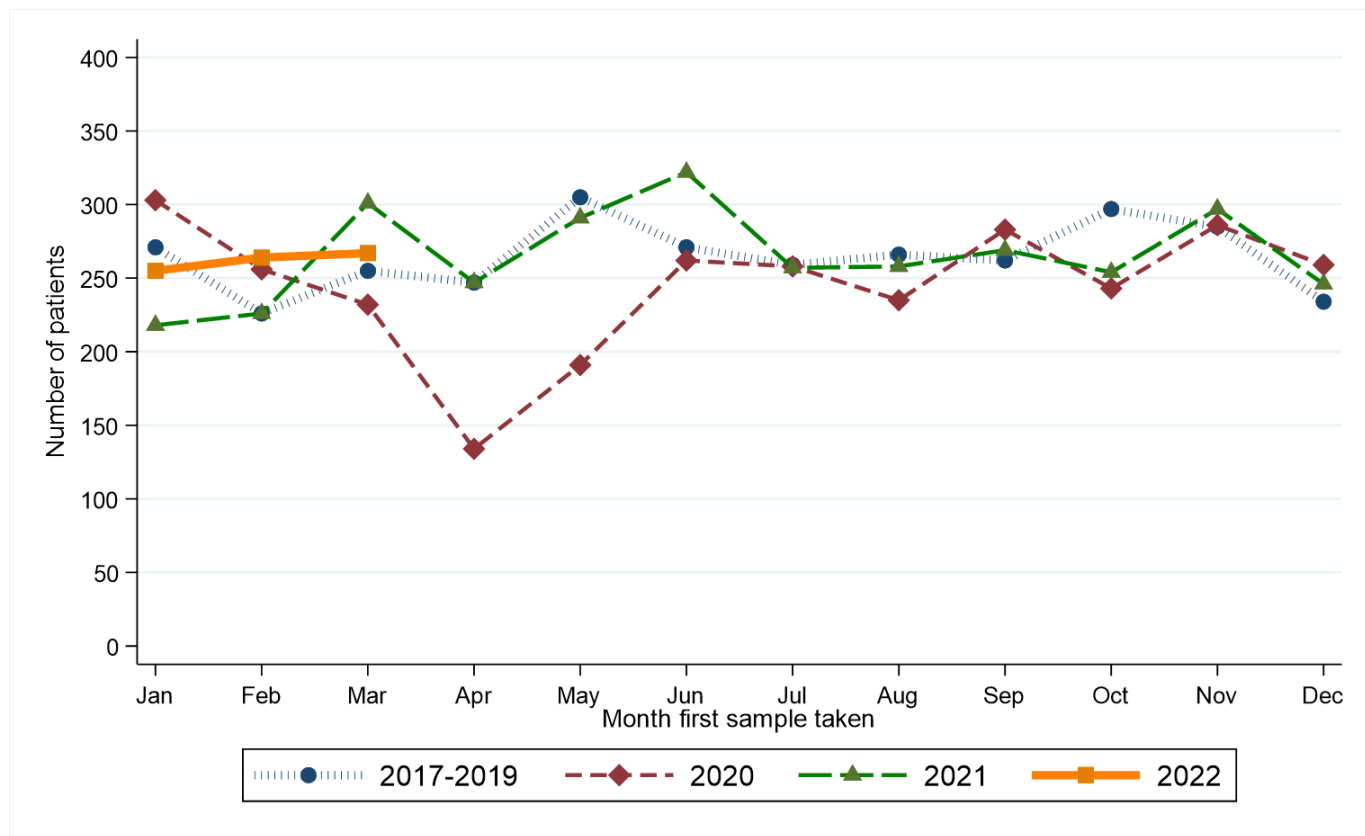
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.9%**



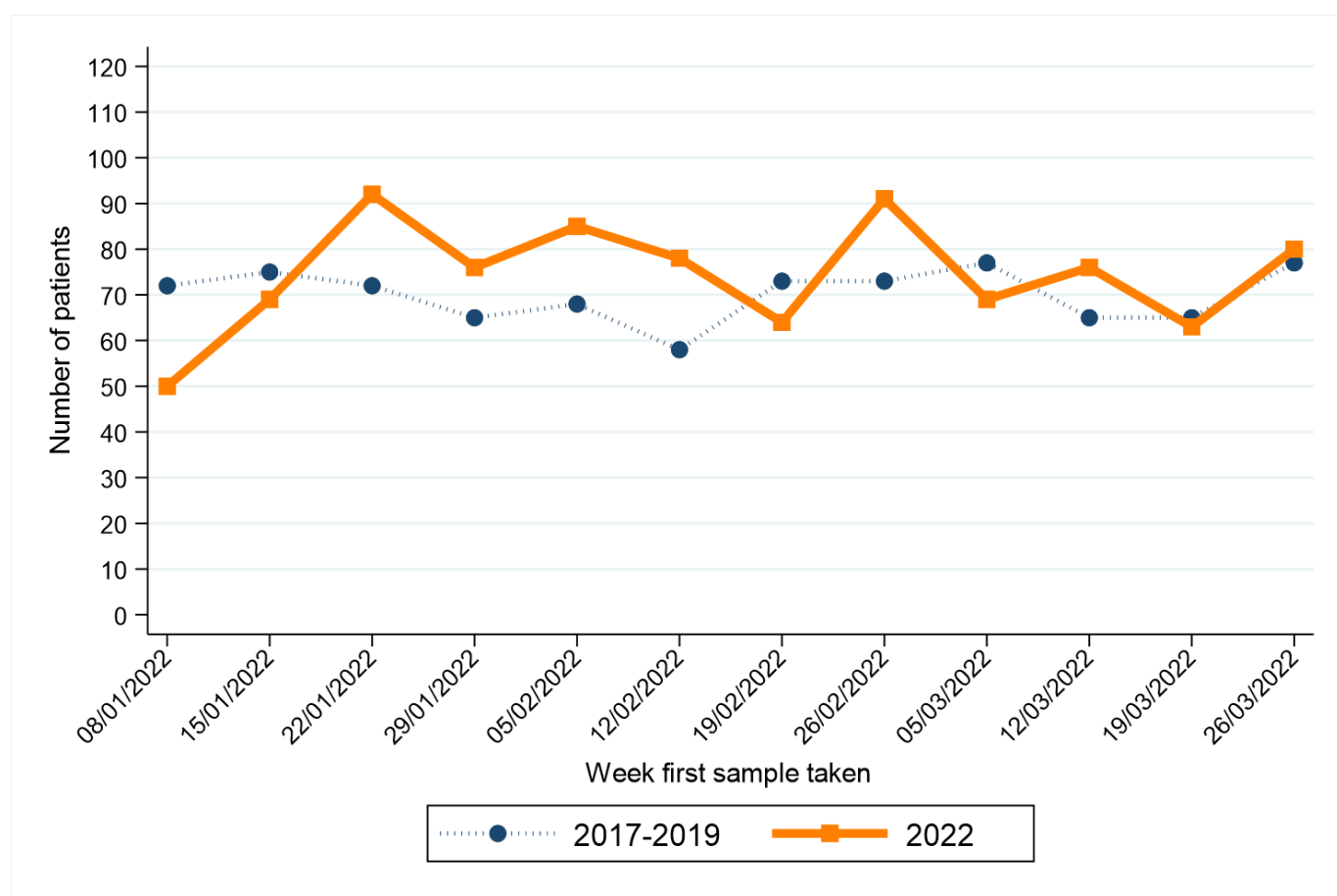
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	271	303	218	255
Feb	226	256	226	264
Mar	255	232	301	267
Apr	247	134	247	.
May	305	191	291	.
Jun	271	262	322	.
Jul	259	258	257	.
Aug	266	235	258	.
Sep	262	283	269	.
Oct	297	243	254	.
Nov	285	286	297	.
Dec	234	259	246	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+6.3%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	72	50
15/01/2022	75	69
22/01/2022	72	92
29/01/2022	65	76
05/02/2022	68	85
12/02/2022	58	78
19/02/2022	73	64
26/02/2022	73	91
05/03/2022	77	69
12/03/2022	65	76
19/03/2022	65	63
26/03/2022	77	80

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-0.2%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	73	84	66	77
Feb	65	76	80	75
Mar	74	70	84	71
Apr	74	35	97	.
May	81	45	86	.
Jun	70	70	73	.
Jul	67	71	74	.
Aug	74	73	87	.
Sep	71	82	81	.
Oct	75	61	82	.
Nov	84	58	80	.
Dec	67	71	72	.

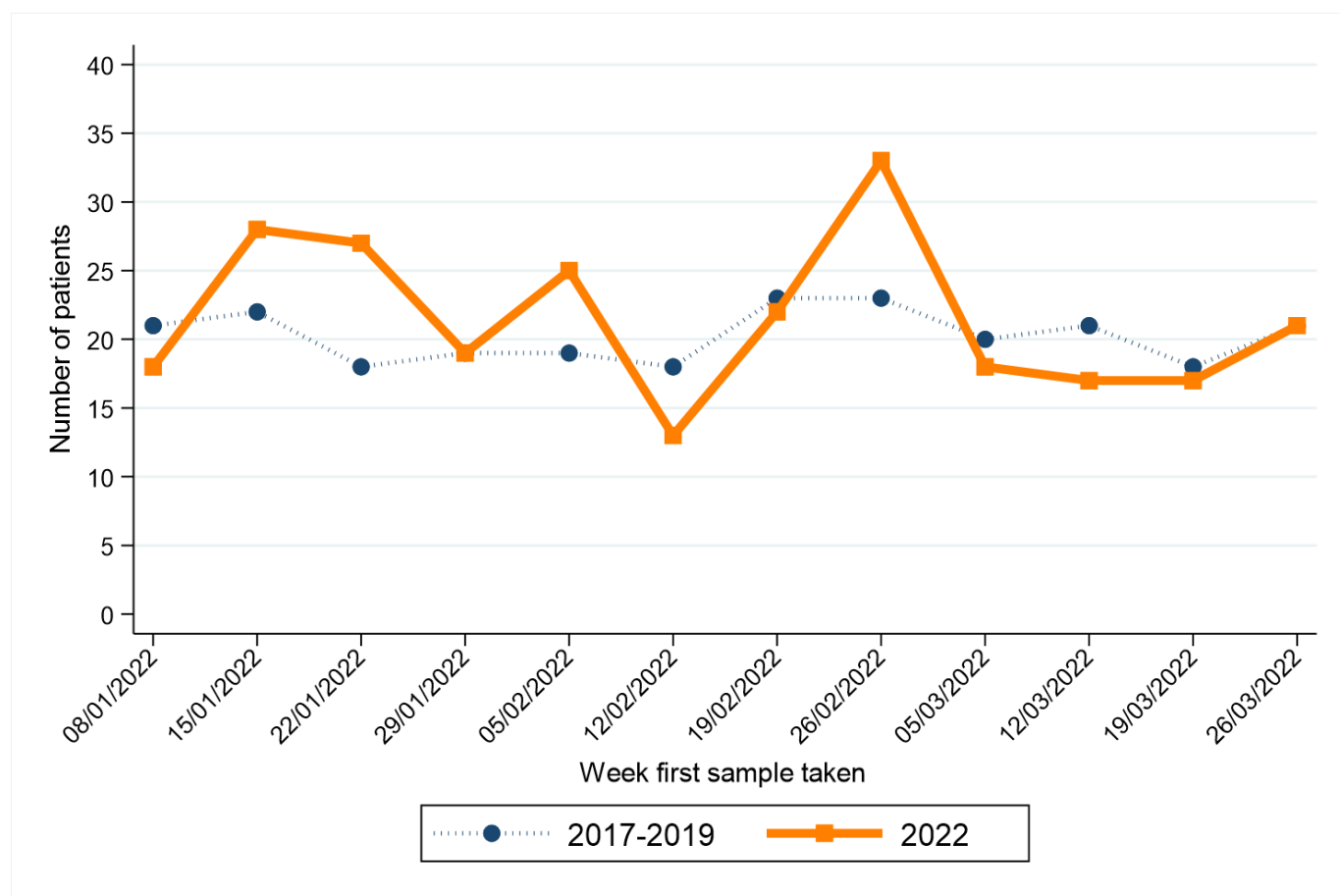
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+6.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	21	18
15/01/2022	22	28
22/01/2022	18	27
29/01/2022	19	19
05/02/2022	19	25
12/02/2022	18	13
19/02/2022	23	22
26/02/2022	23	33
05/03/2022	20	18
12/03/2022	21	17
19/03/2022	18	17
26/03/2022	21	21

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

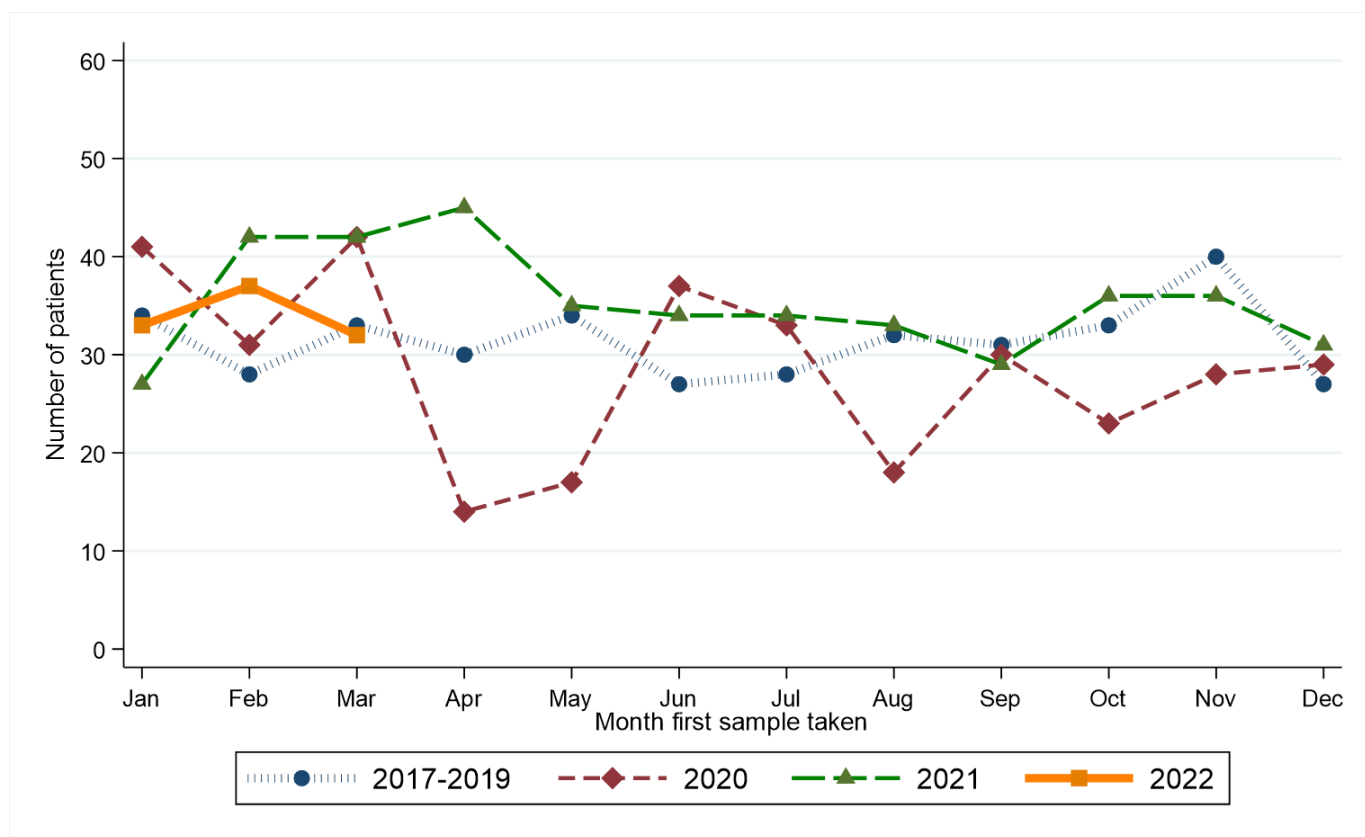
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+1.3%**



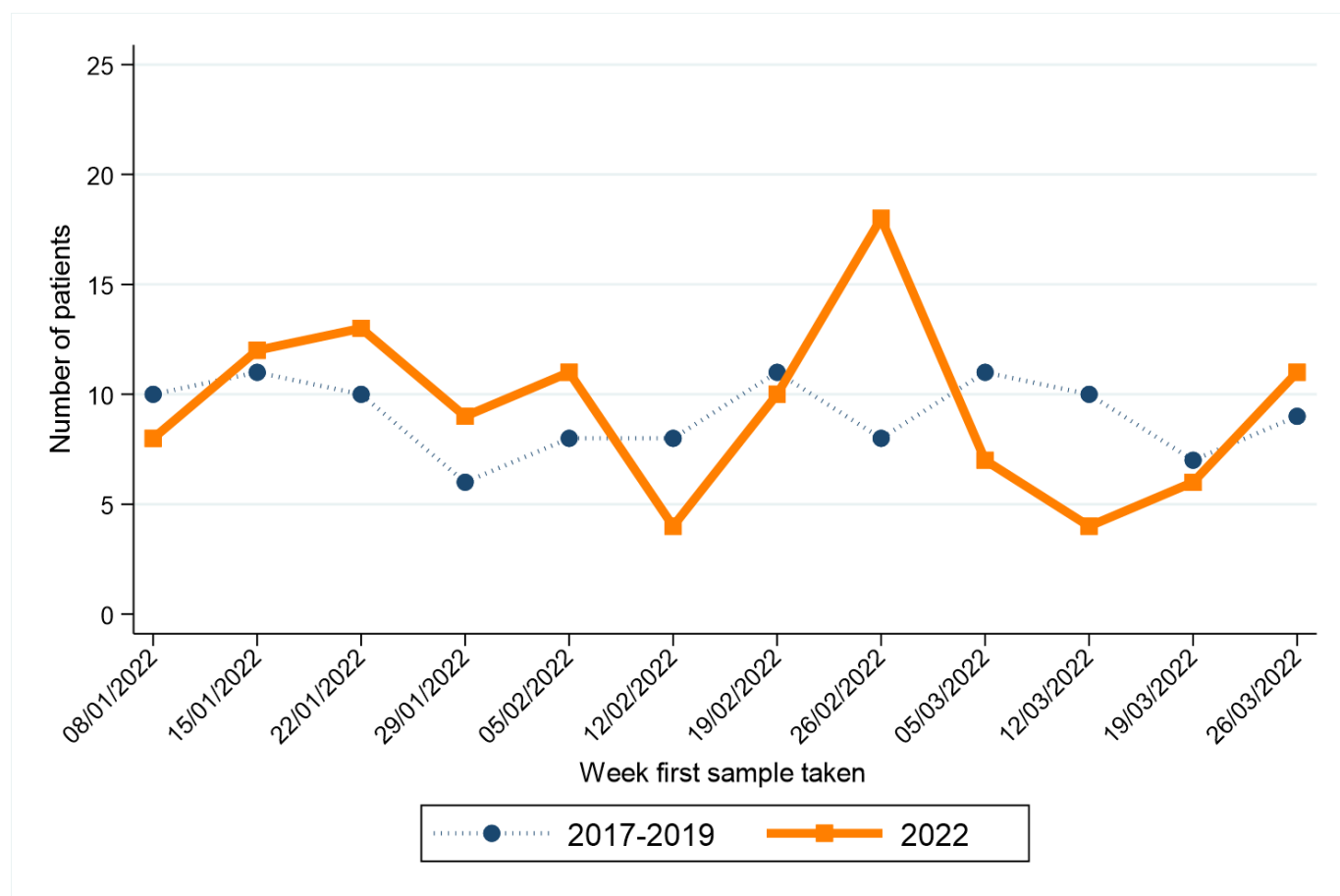
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	34	41	27	33
Feb	28	31	42	37
Mar	33	42	42	32
Apr	30	14	45	.
May	34	17	35	.
Jun	27	37	34	.
Jul	28	33	34	.
Aug	32	18	33	.
Sep	31	30	29	.
Oct	33	23	36	.
Nov	40	28	36	.
Dec	27	29	31	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+3.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	10	8
15/01/2022	11	12
22/01/2022	10	13
29/01/2022	6	9
05/02/2022	8	11
12/02/2022	8	4
19/02/2022	11	10
26/02/2022	8	18
05/03/2022	11	7
12/03/2022	10	4
19/03/2022	7	6
26/03/2022	9	11

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

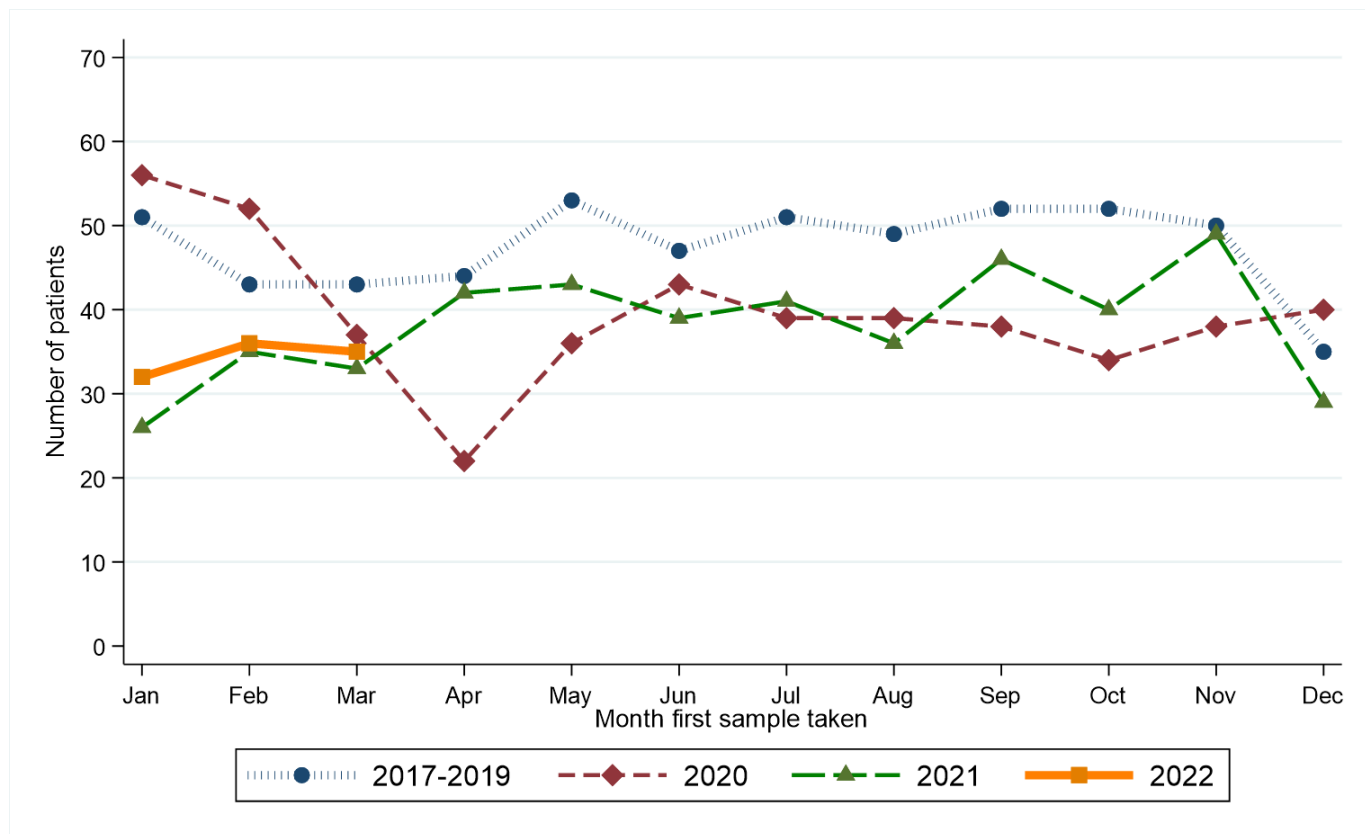
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# LUNG CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-21.6%**



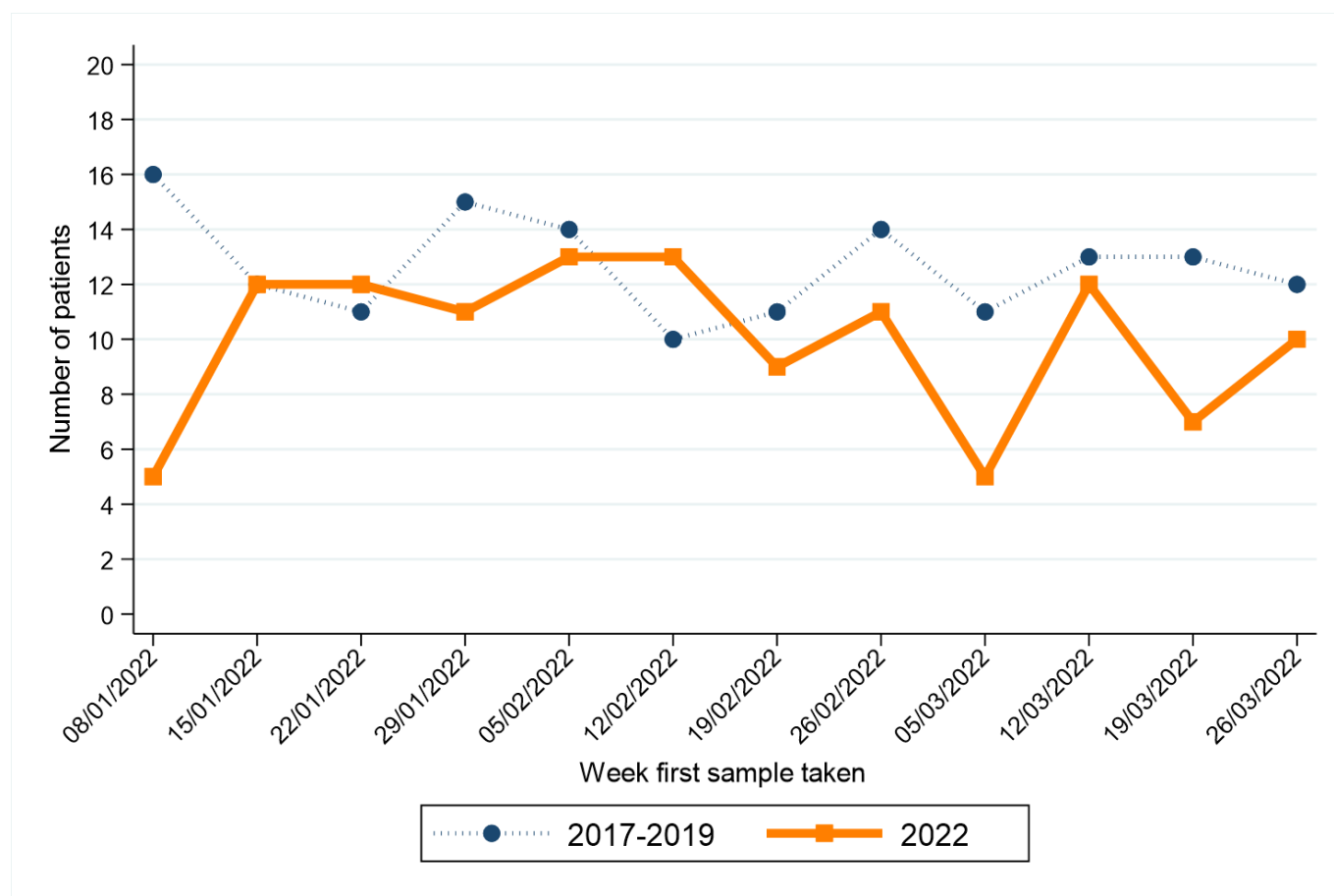
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	51	56	26	32
Feb	43	52	35	36
Mar	43	37	33	35
Apr	44	22	42	.
May	53	36	43	.
Jun	47	43	39	.
Jul	51	39	41	.
Aug	49	39	36	.
Sep	52	38	46	.
Oct	52	34	40	.
Nov	50	38	49	.
Dec	35	40	29	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-21.1%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	16	5
15/01/2022	12	12
22/01/2022	11	12
29/01/2022	15	11
05/02/2022	14	13
12/02/2022	10	13
19/02/2022	11	9
26/02/2022	14	11
05/03/2022	11	5
12/03/2022	13	12
19/03/2022	13	7
26/03/2022	12	10

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

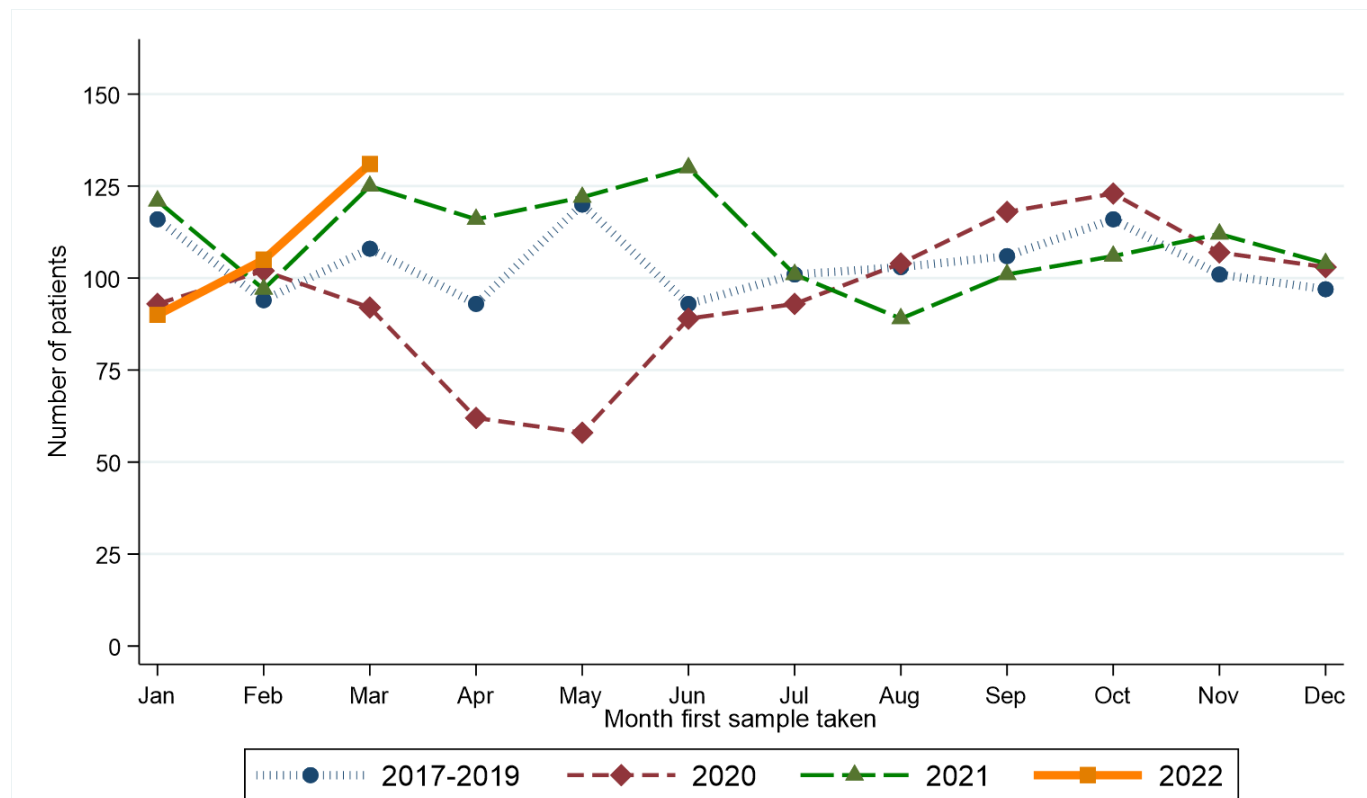
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-0.2%**



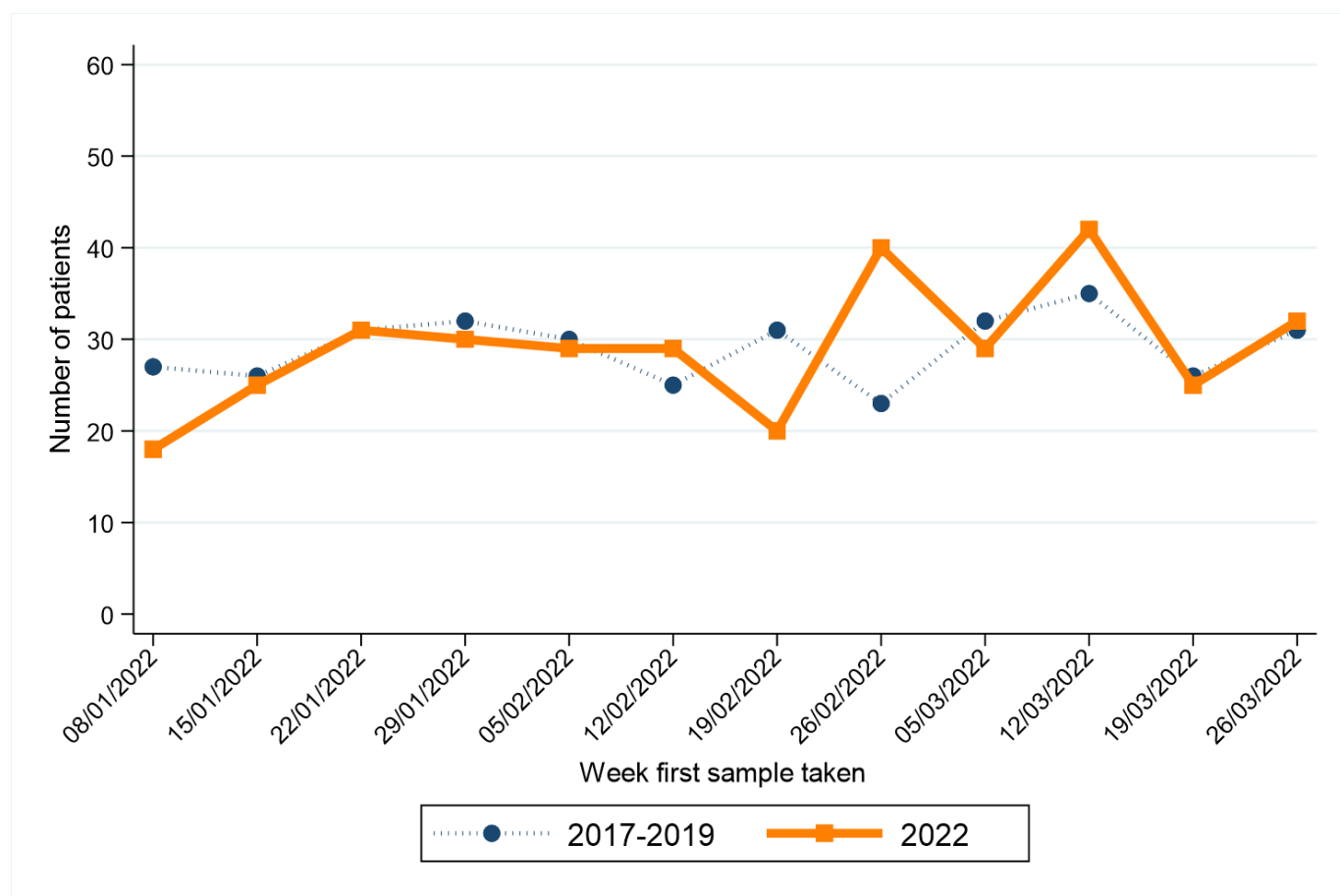
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	116	93	121	90
Feb	94	102	97	105
Mar	108	92	125	131
Apr	93	62	116	.
May	120	58	122	.
Jun	93	89	130	.
Jul	101	93	101	.
Aug	103	104	89	.
Sep	106	118	101	.
Oct	116	123	106	.
Nov	101	107	112	.
Dec	97	103	104	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+0.3%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	27	18
15/01/2022	26	25
22/01/2022	31	31
29/01/2022	32	30
05/02/2022	30	29
12/02/2022	25	29
19/02/2022	31	20
26/02/2022	23	40
05/03/2022	32	29
12/03/2022	35	42
19/03/2022	26	25
26/03/2022	31	32

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

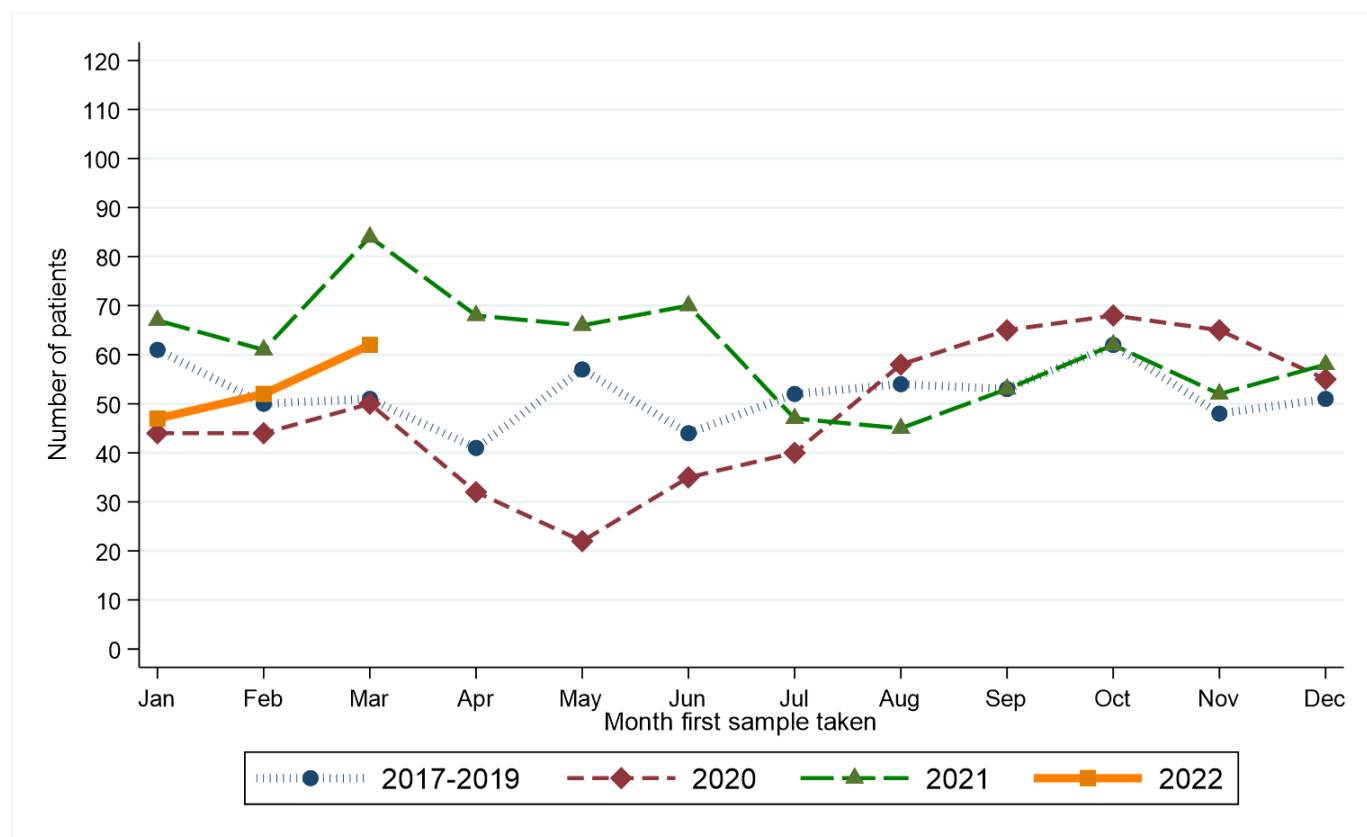
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+6.5%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	61	44	67	47
Feb	50	44	61	52
Mar	51	50	84	62
Apr	41	32	68	.
May	57	22	66	.
Jun	44	35	70	.
Jul	52	40	47	.
Aug	54	58	45	.
Sep	53	65	53	.
Oct	62	68	62	.
Nov	48	65	52	.
Dec	51	55	58	.

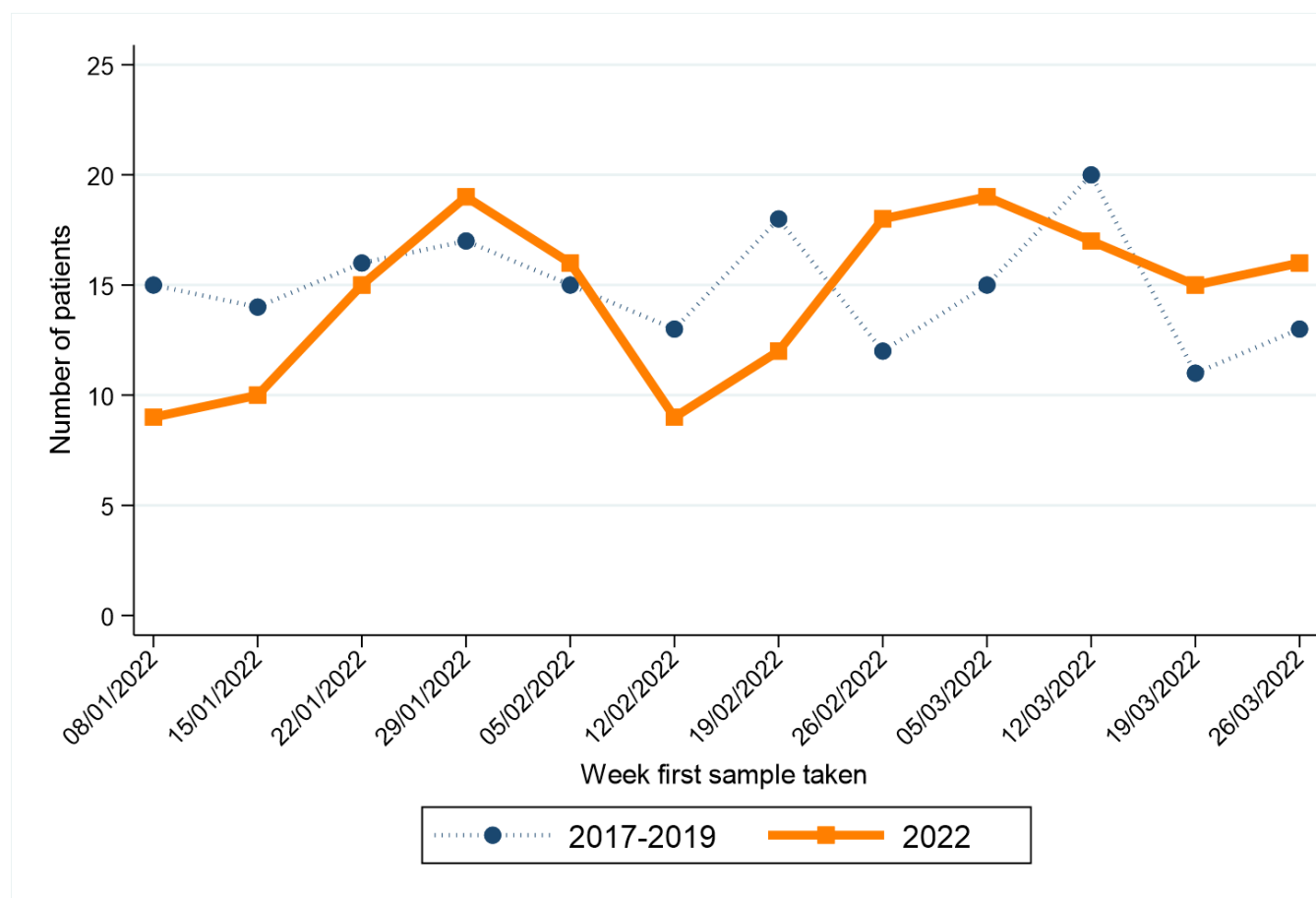
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-2.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	15	9
15/01/2022	14	10
22/01/2022	16	15
29/01/2022	17	19
05/02/2022	15	16
12/02/2022	13	9
19/02/2022	18	12
26/02/2022	12	18
05/03/2022	15	19
12/03/2022	20	17
19/03/2022	11	15
26/03/2022	13	16

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

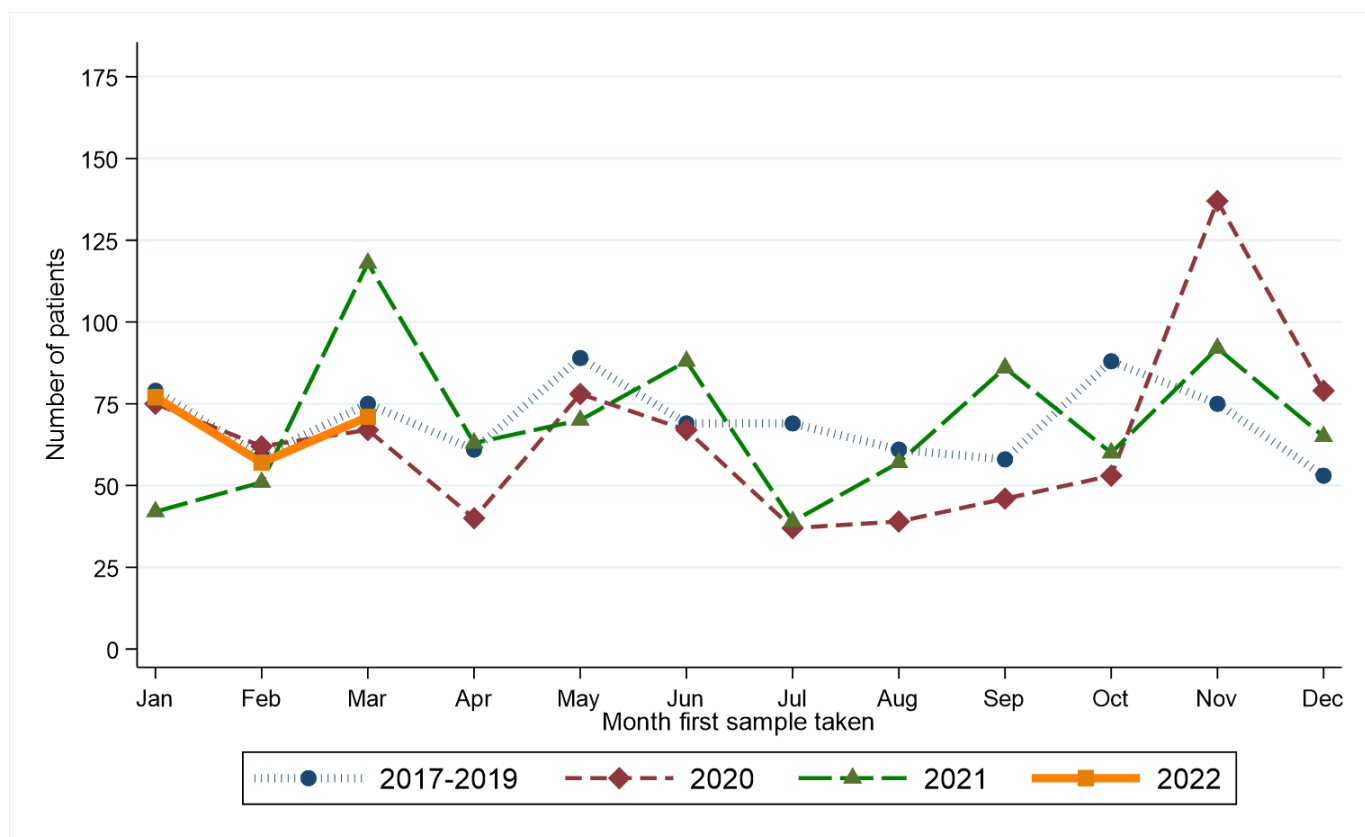
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# PROSTATE CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.9%**



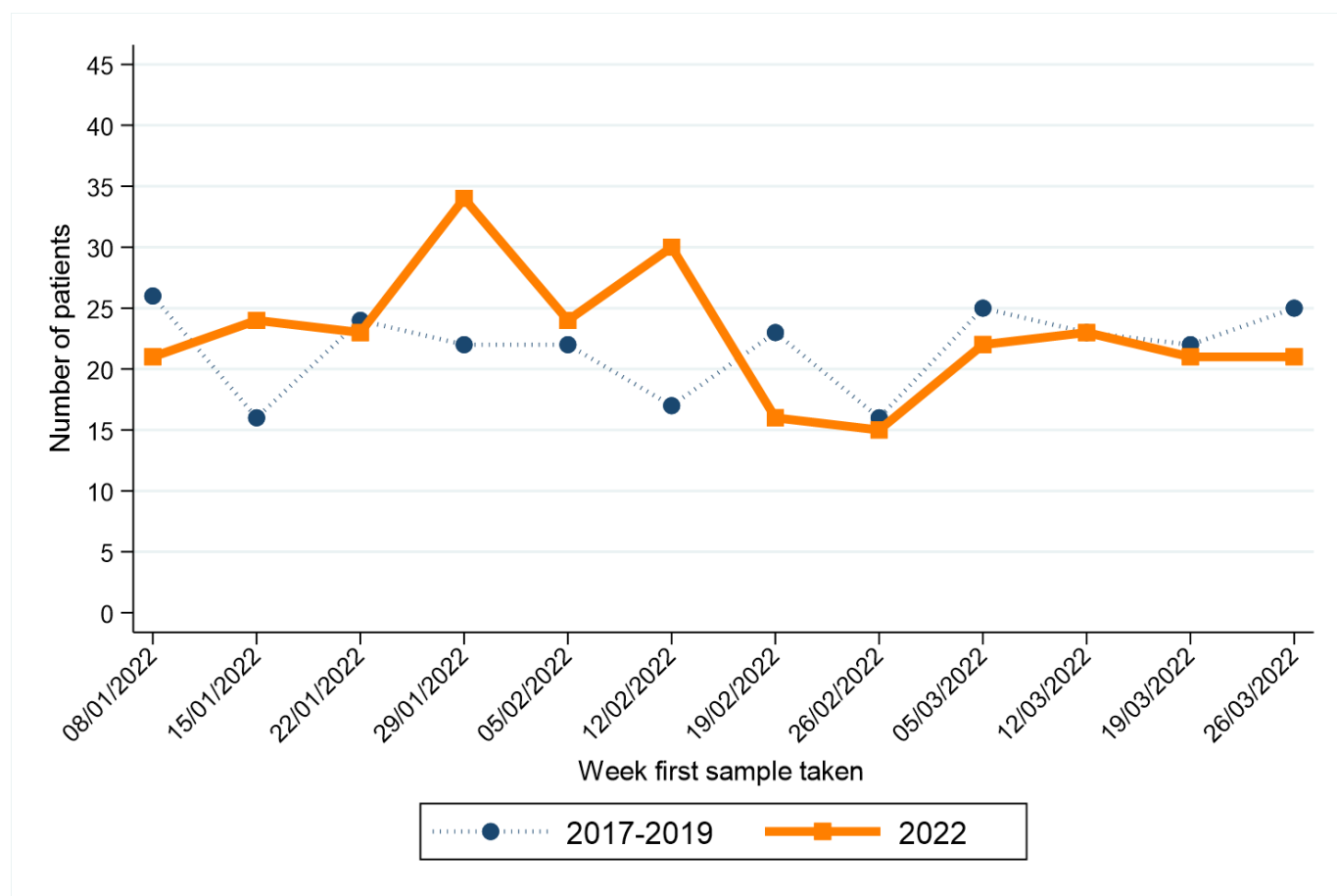
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	79	75	42	77
Feb	59	62	51	57
Mar	75	67	118	71
Apr	61	40	63	.
May	89	78	70	.
Jun	69	67	88	.
Jul	69	37	39	.
Aug	61	39	57	.
Sep	58	46	86	.
Oct	88	53	60	.
Nov	75	137	92	.
Dec	53	79	65	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+5.0%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	26	21
15/01/2022	16	24
22/01/2022	24	23
29/01/2022	22	34
05/02/2022	22	24
12/02/2022	17	30
19/02/2022	23	16
26/02/2022	16	15
05/03/2022	25	22
12/03/2022	23	23
19/03/2022	22	21
26/03/2022	25	21

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

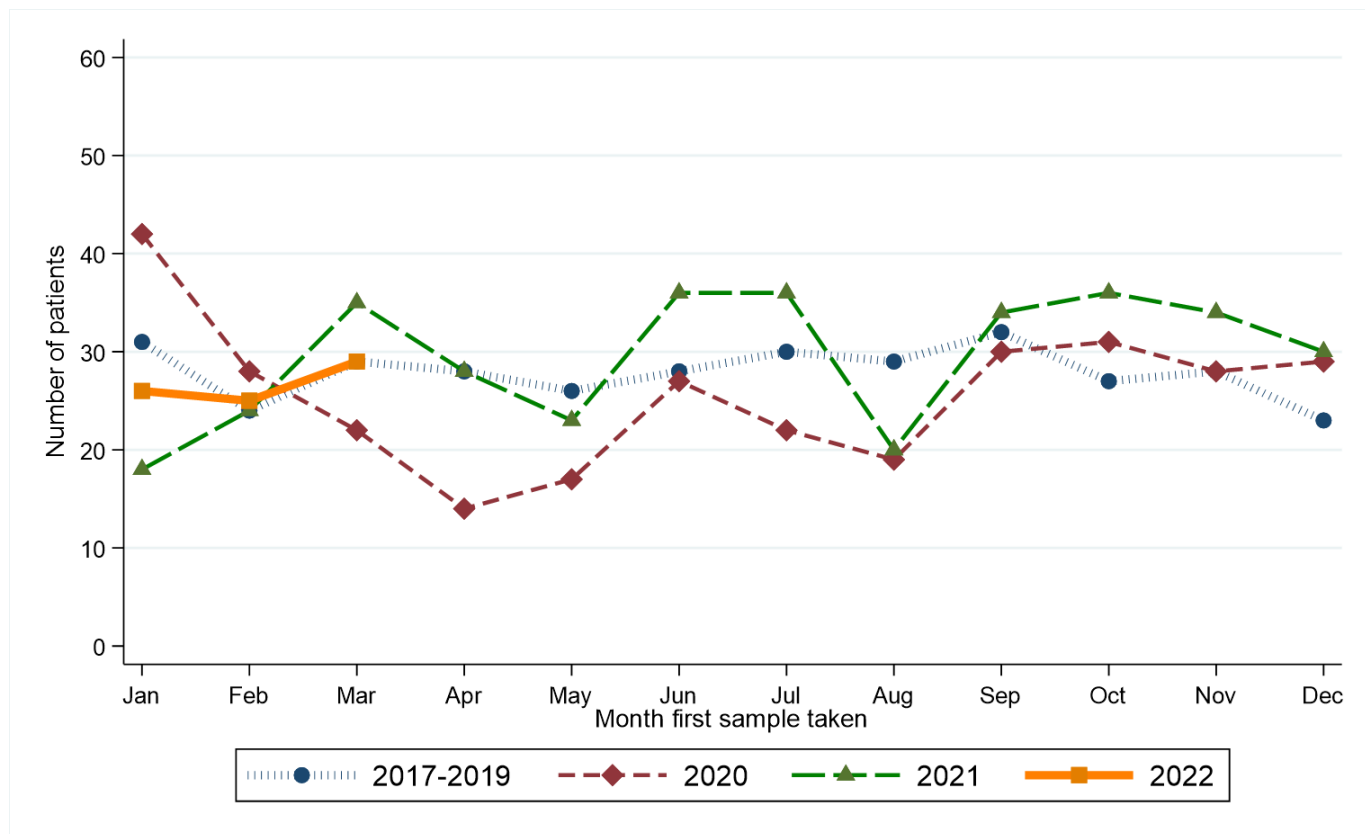
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.7%**



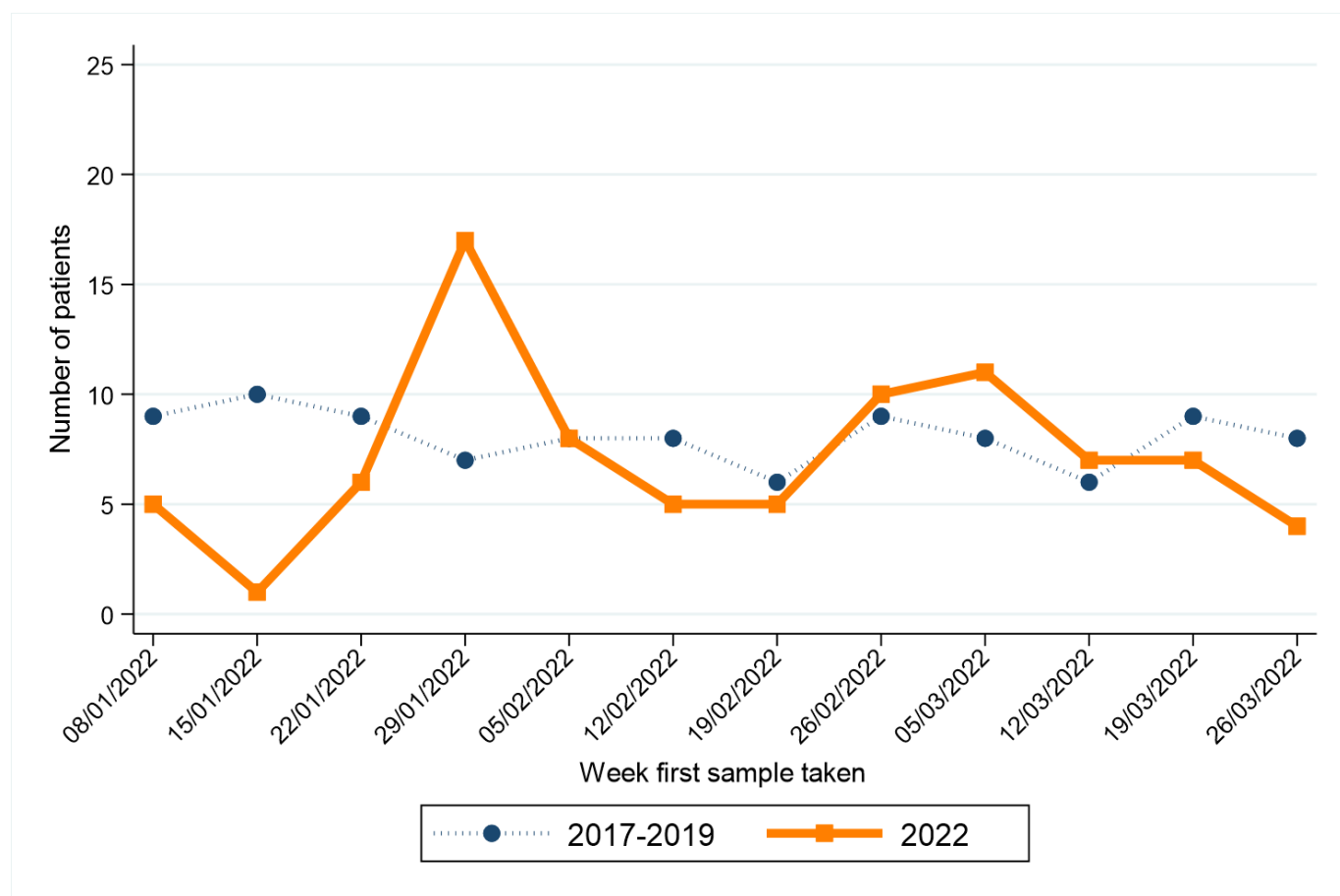
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	31	42	18	26
Feb	24	28	24	25
Mar	29	22	35	29
Apr	28	14	28	.
May	26	17	23	.
Jun	28	27	36	.
Jul	30	22	36	.
Aug	29	19	20	.
Sep	32	30	34	.
Oct	27	31	36	.
Nov	28	28	34	.
Dec	23	29	30	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-11.3%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	9	5
15/01/2022	10	1
22/01/2022	9	6
29/01/2022	7	17
05/02/2022	8	8
12/02/2022	8	5
19/02/2022	6	5
26/02/2022	9	10
05/03/2022	8	11
12/03/2022	6	7
19/03/2022	9	7
26/03/2022	8	4

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

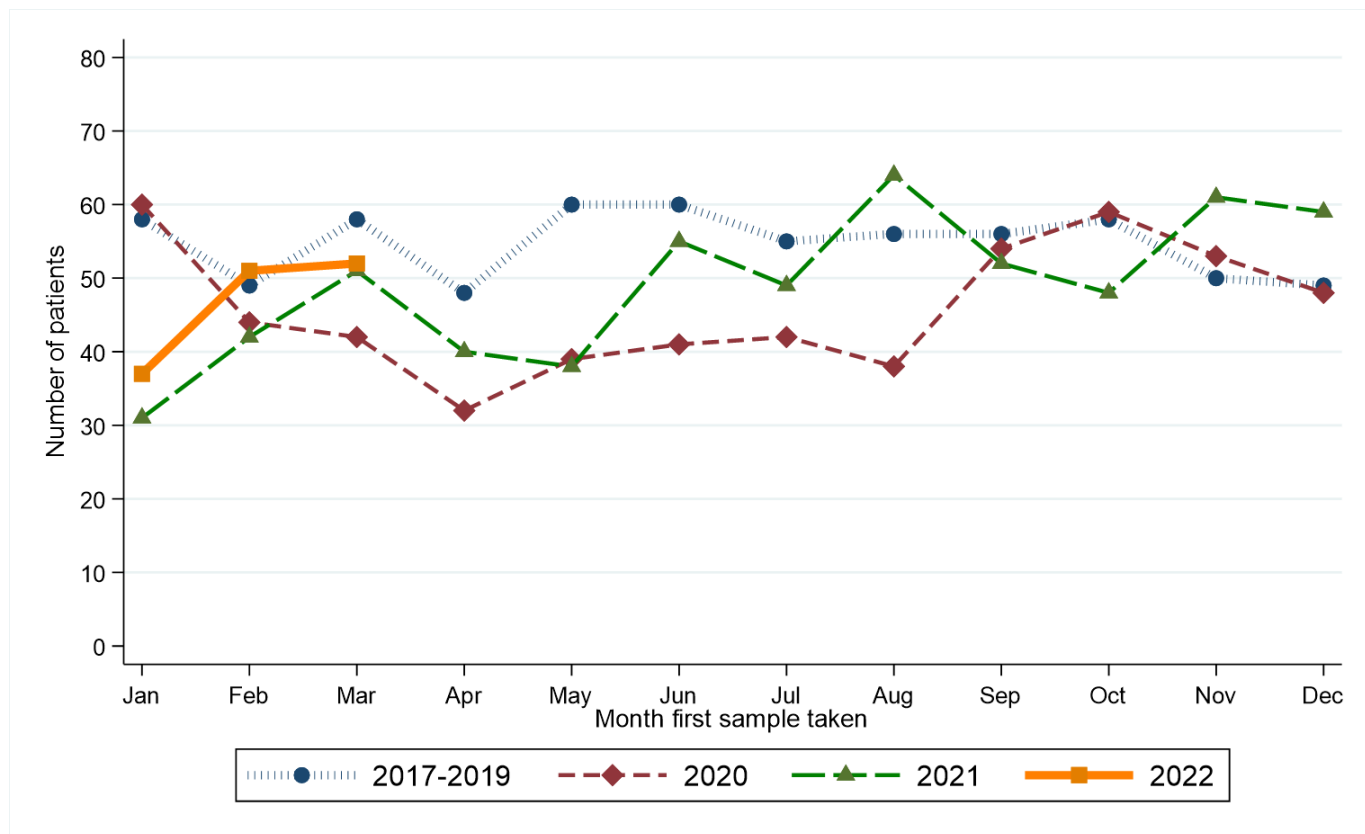
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-14.1%**



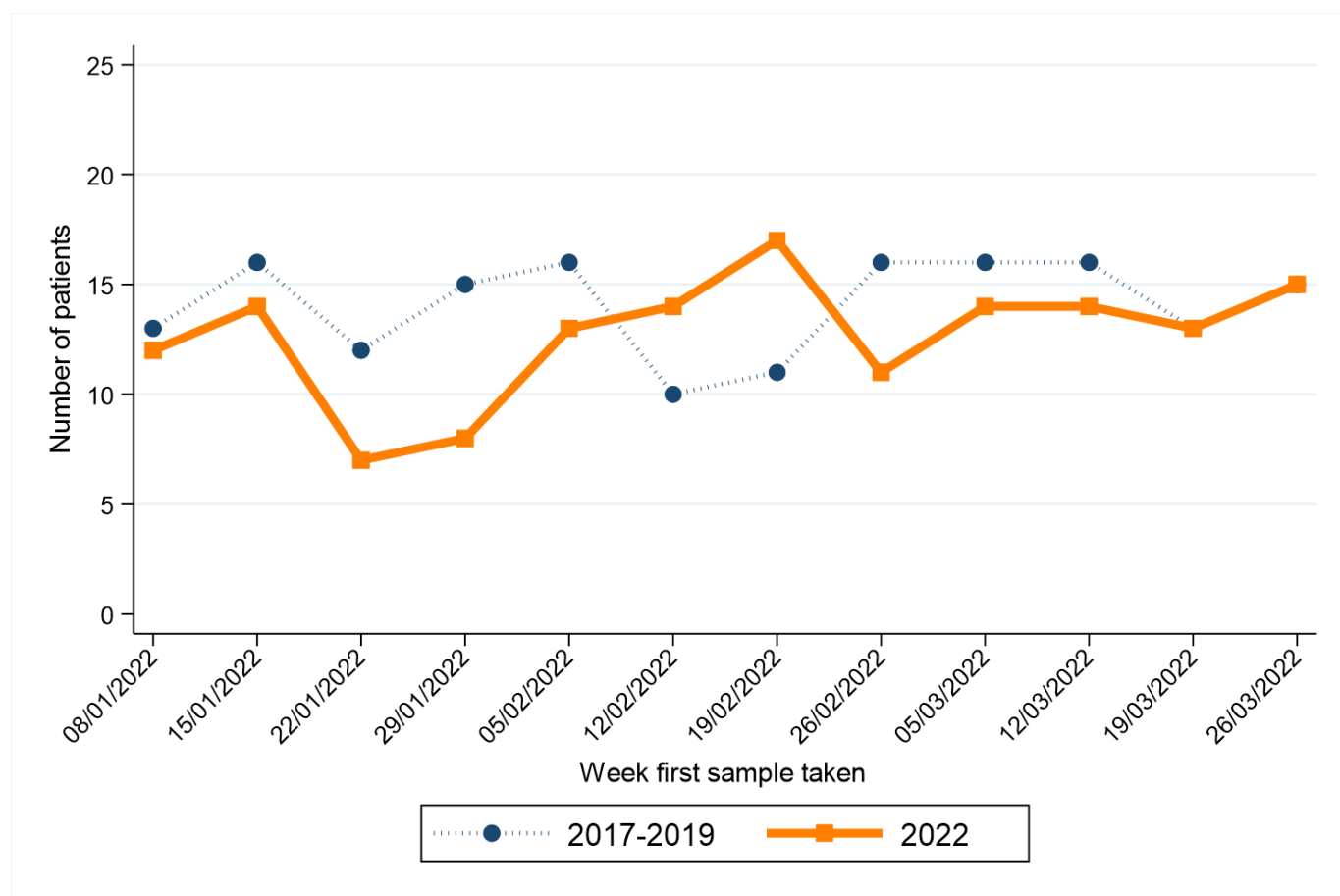
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	58	60	31	37
Feb	49	44	42	51
Mar	58	42	51	52
Apr	48	32	40	.
May	60	39	38	.
Jun	60	41	55	.
Jul	55	42	49	.
Aug	56	38	64	.
Sep	56	54	52	.
Oct	58	59	48	.
Nov	50	53	61	.
Dec	49	48	59	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-10.1%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	13	12
15/01/2022	16	14
22/01/2022	12	7
29/01/2022	15	8
05/02/2022	16	13
12/02/2022	10	14
19/02/2022	11	17
26/02/2022	16	11
05/03/2022	16	14
12/03/2022	16	14
19/03/2022	13	13
26/03/2022	15	15

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

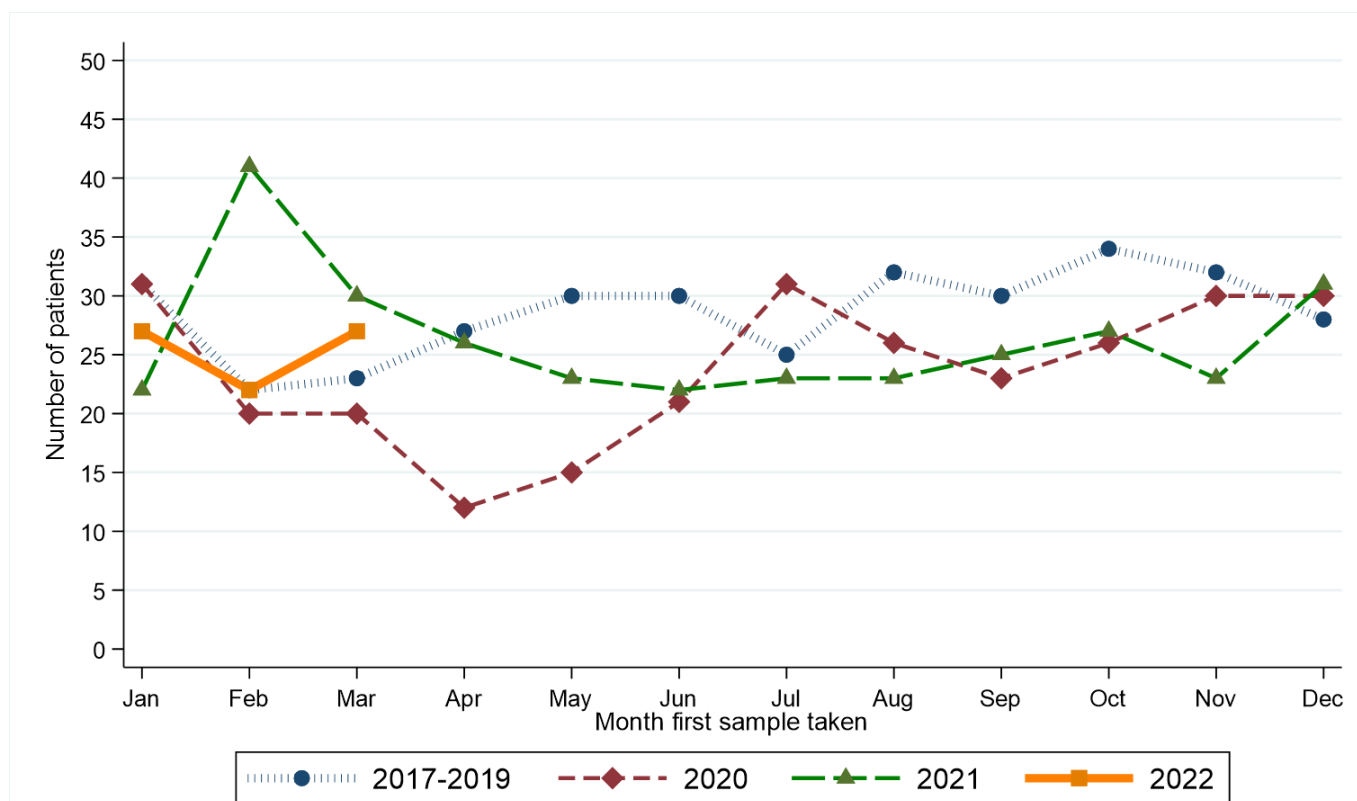
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# HEAD AND NECK CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-12.0%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	31	31	22	27
Feb	22	20	41	22
Mar	23	20	30	27
Apr	27	12	26	.
May	30	15	23	.
Jun	30	21	22	.
Jul	25	31	23	.
Aug	32	26	23	.
Sep	30	23	25	.
Oct	34	26	27	.
Nov	32	30	23	.
Dec	28	30	31	.

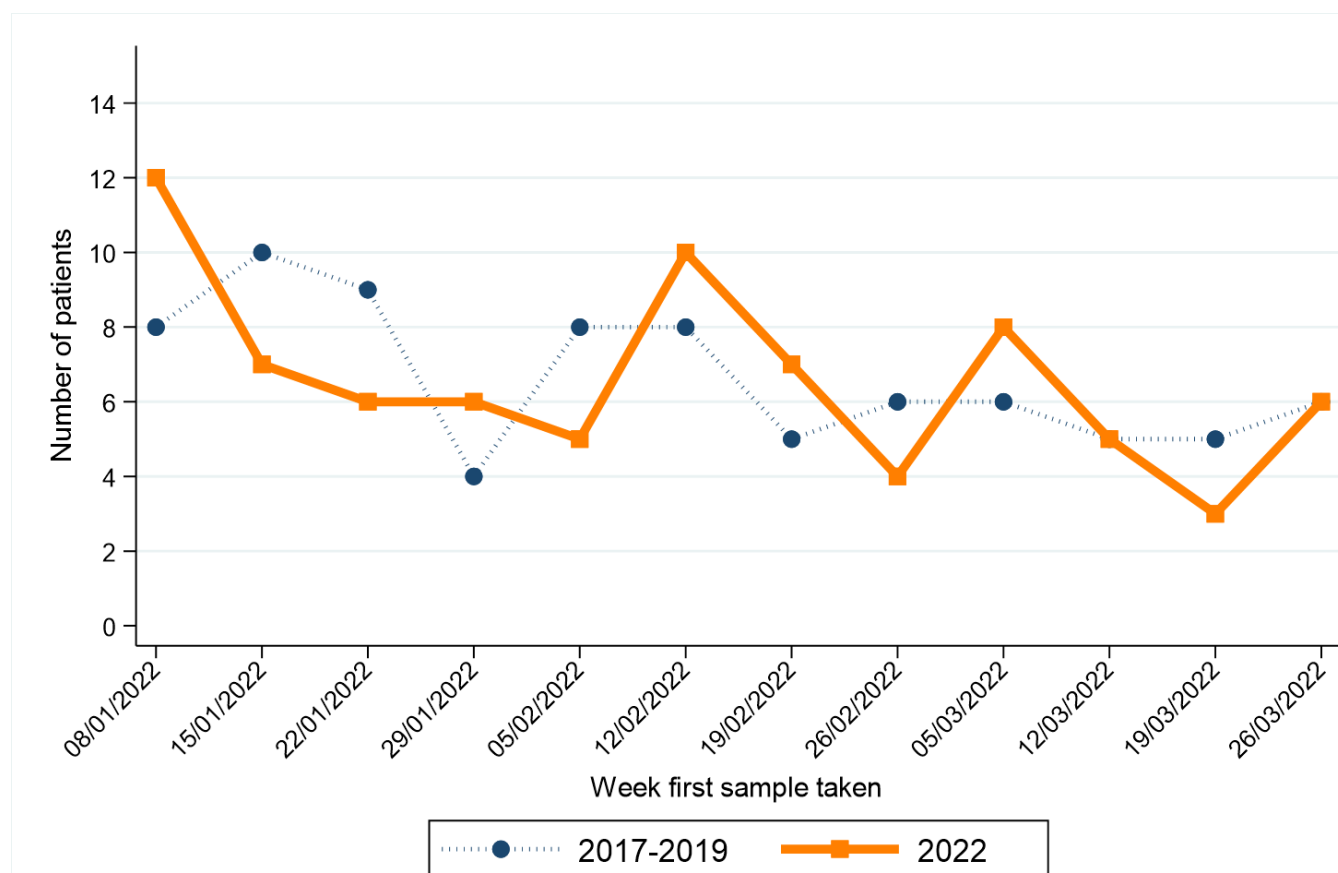
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-1.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	8	12
15/01/2022	10	7
22/01/2022	9	6
29/01/2022	4	6
05/02/2022	8	5
12/02/2022	8	10
19/02/2022	5	7
26/02/2022	6	4
05/03/2022	6	8
12/03/2022	5	5
19/03/2022	5	3
26/03/2022	6	6

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

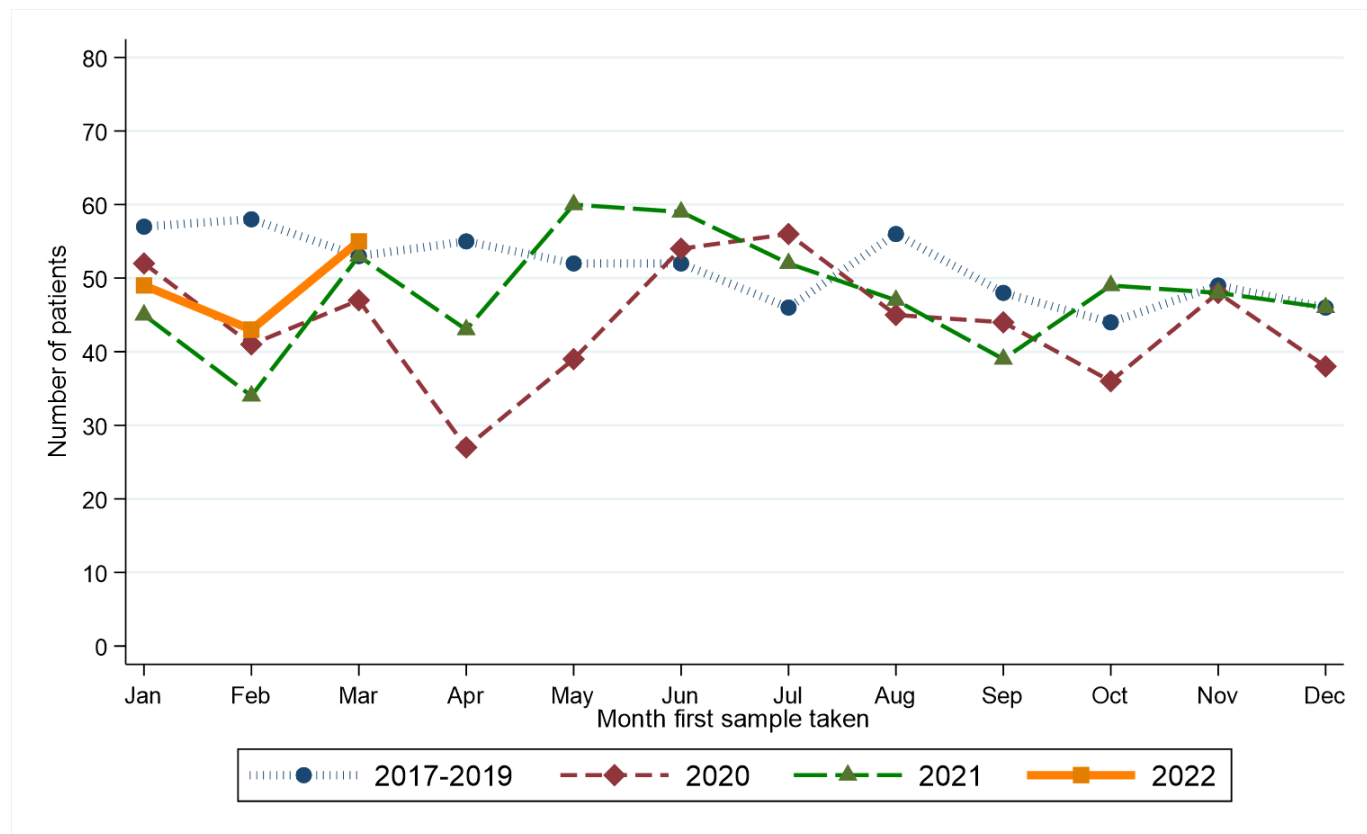
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# URINARY CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-10.0%**



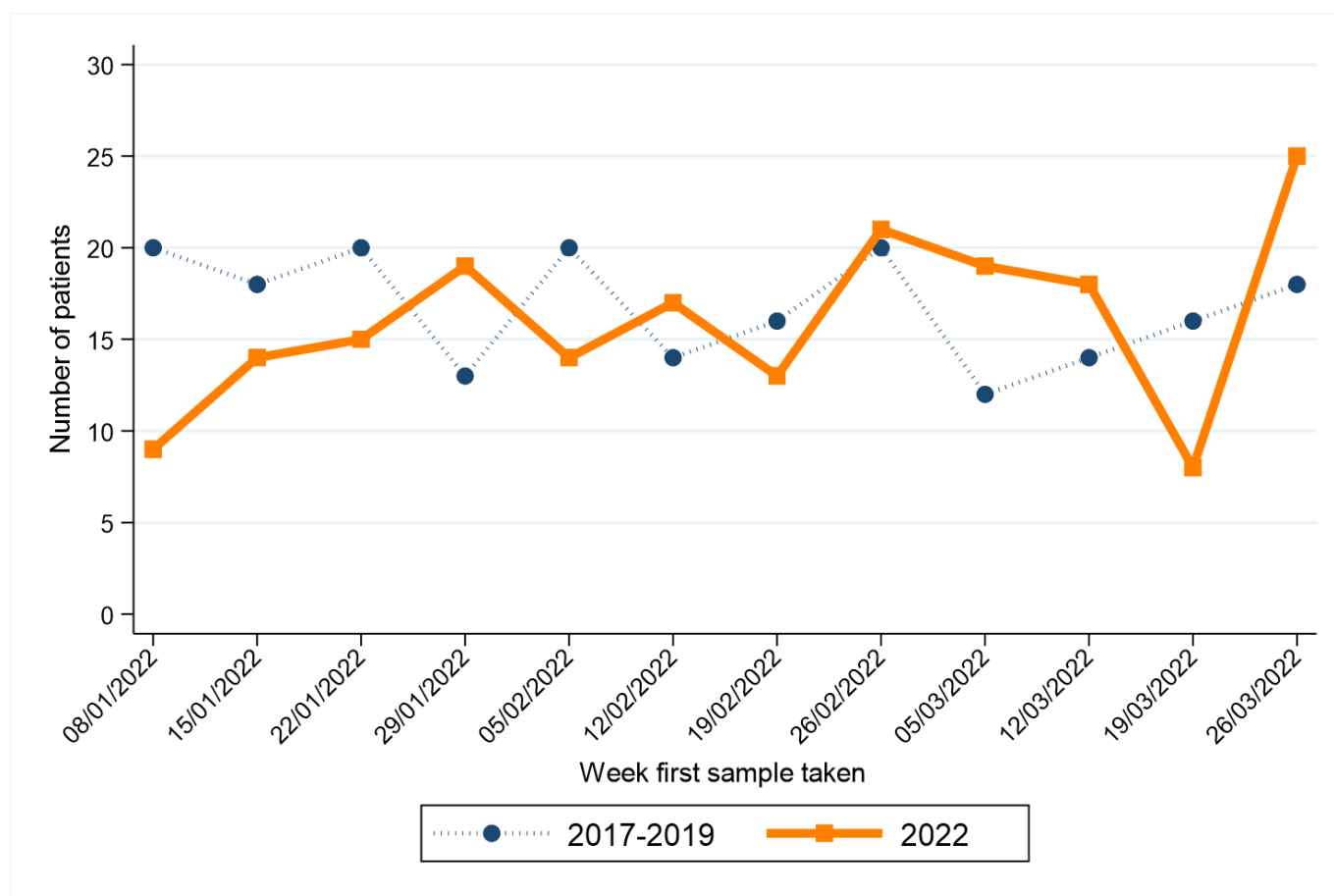
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	57	52	45	49
Feb	58	41	34	43
Mar	53	47	53	55
Apr	55	27	43	.
May	52	39	60	.
Jun	52	54	59	.
Jul	46	56	52	.
Aug	56	45	47	.
Sep	48	44	39	.
Oct	44	36	49	.
Nov	49	48	48	.
Dec	46	38	46	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.5%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	20	9
15/01/2022	18	14
22/01/2022	20	15
29/01/2022	13	19
05/02/2022	20	14
12/02/2022	14	17
19/02/2022	16	13
26/02/2022	20	21
05/03/2022	12	19
12/03/2022	14	18
19/03/2022	16	8
26/03/2022	18	25

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+3.8%**



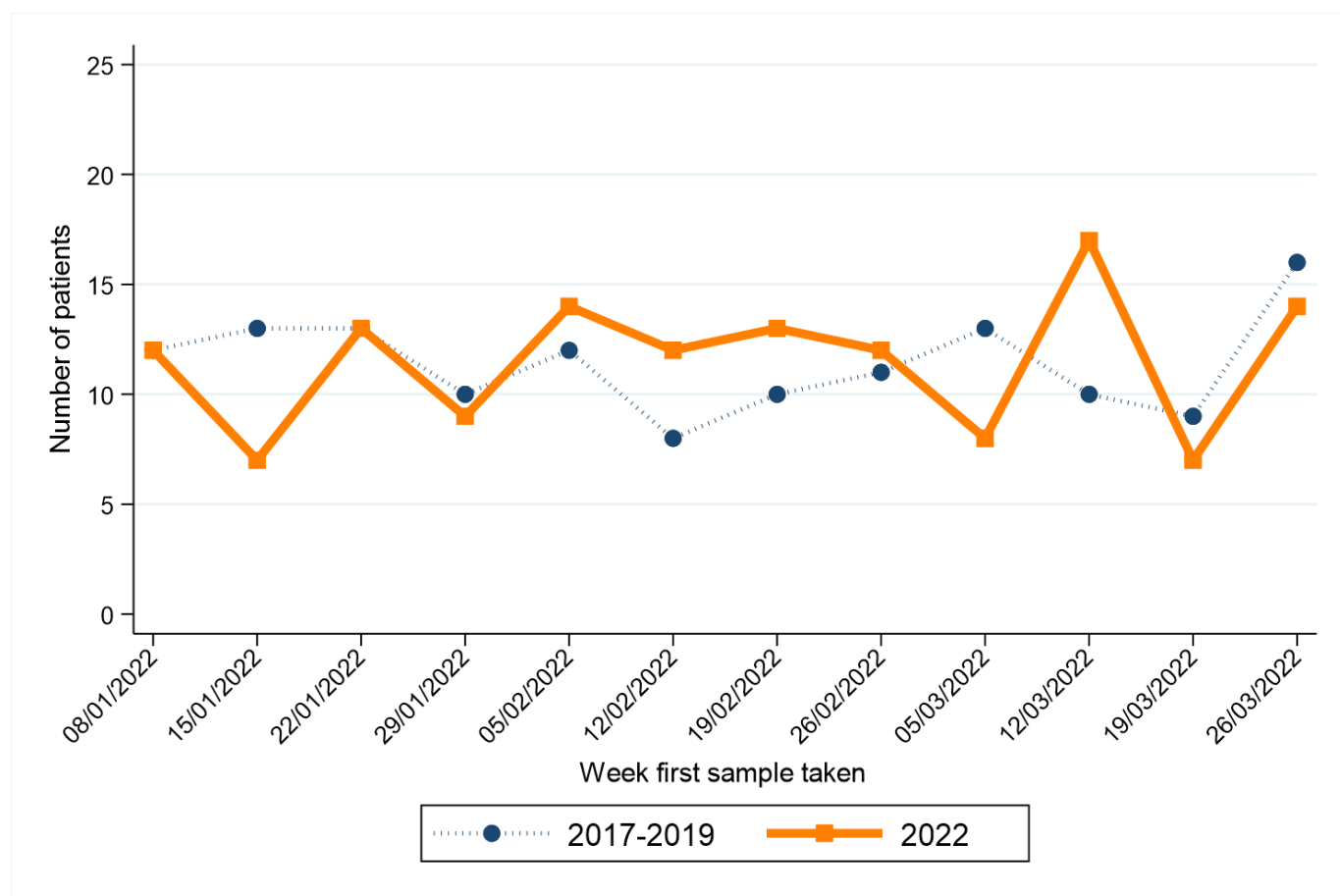
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	53	62	47	40
Feb	38	53	57	52
Mar	48	55	62	50
Apr	49	32	65	.
May	64	47	59	.
Jun	52	59	79	.
Jul	46	47	63	.
Aug	50	50	53	.
Sep	51	64	59	.
Oct	62	48	45	.
Nov	56	58	53	.
Dec	53	55	42	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+0.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	12	12
15/01/2022	13	7
22/01/2022	13	13
29/01/2022	10	9
05/02/2022	12	14
12/02/2022	8	12
19/02/2022	10	13
26/02/2022	11	12
05/03/2022	13	8
12/03/2022	10	17
19/03/2022	9	7
26/03/2022	16	14

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

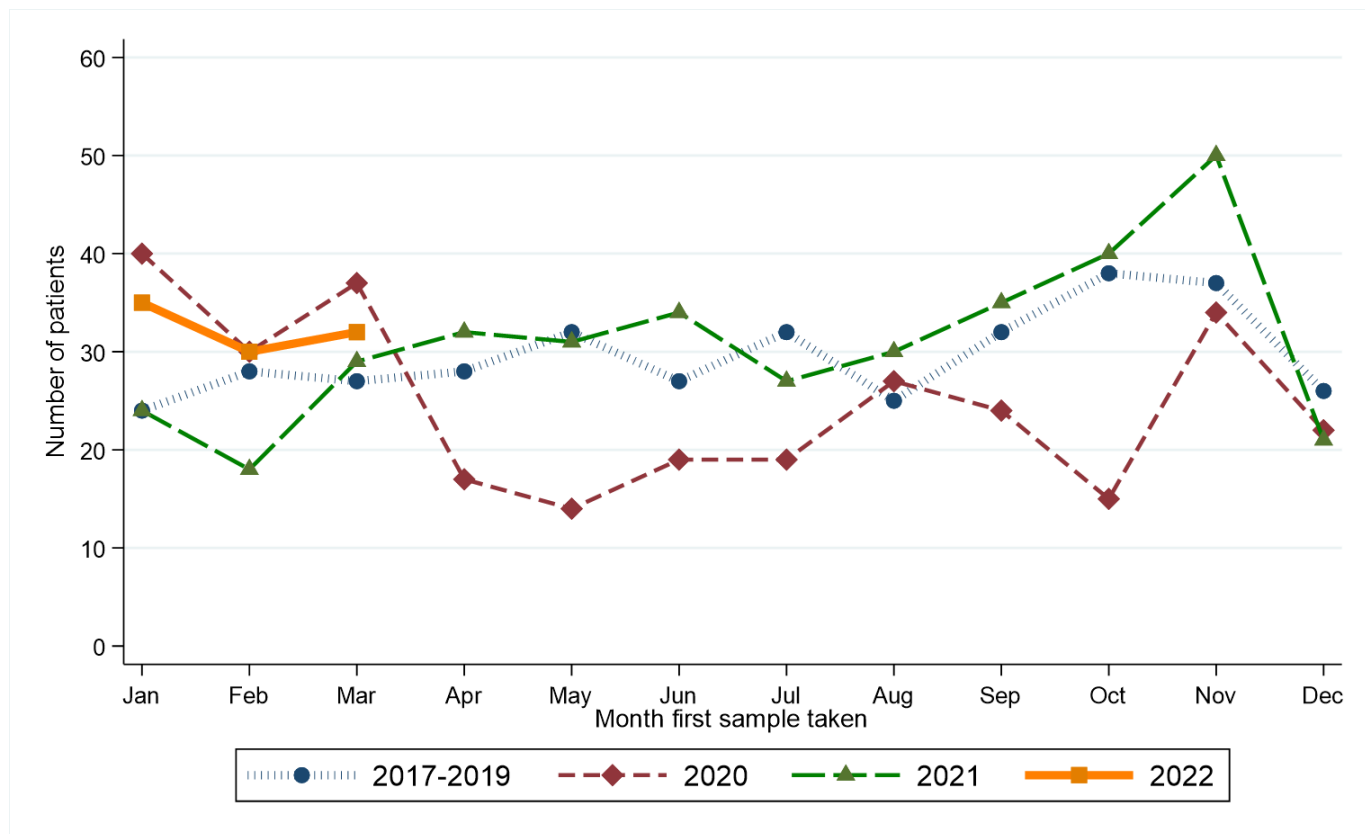
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# MELANOMA

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-5.8%**



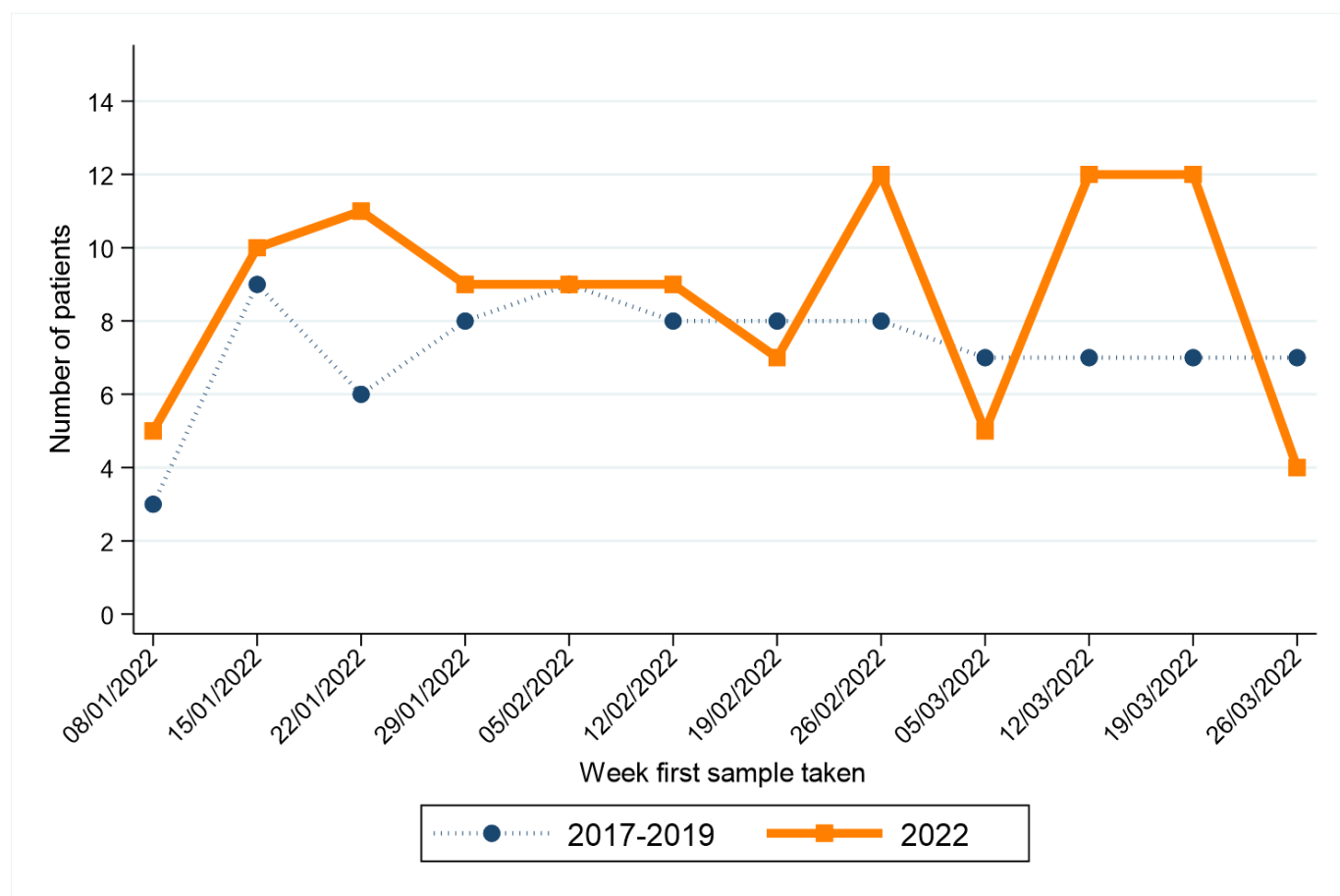
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	24	40	24	35
Feb	28	30	18	30
Mar	27	37	29	32
Apr	28	17	32	.
May	32	14	31	.
Jun	27	19	34	.
Jul	32	19	27	.
Aug	25	27	30	.
Sep	32	24	35	.
Oct	38	15	40	.
Nov	37	34	50	.
Dec	26	22	21	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+20.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	3	5
15/01/2022	9	10
22/01/2022	6	11
29/01/2022	8	9
05/02/2022	9	9
12/02/2022	8	9
19/02/2022	8	7
26/02/2022	8	12
05/03/2022	7	5
12/03/2022	7	12
19/03/2022	7	12
26/03/2022	7	4

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

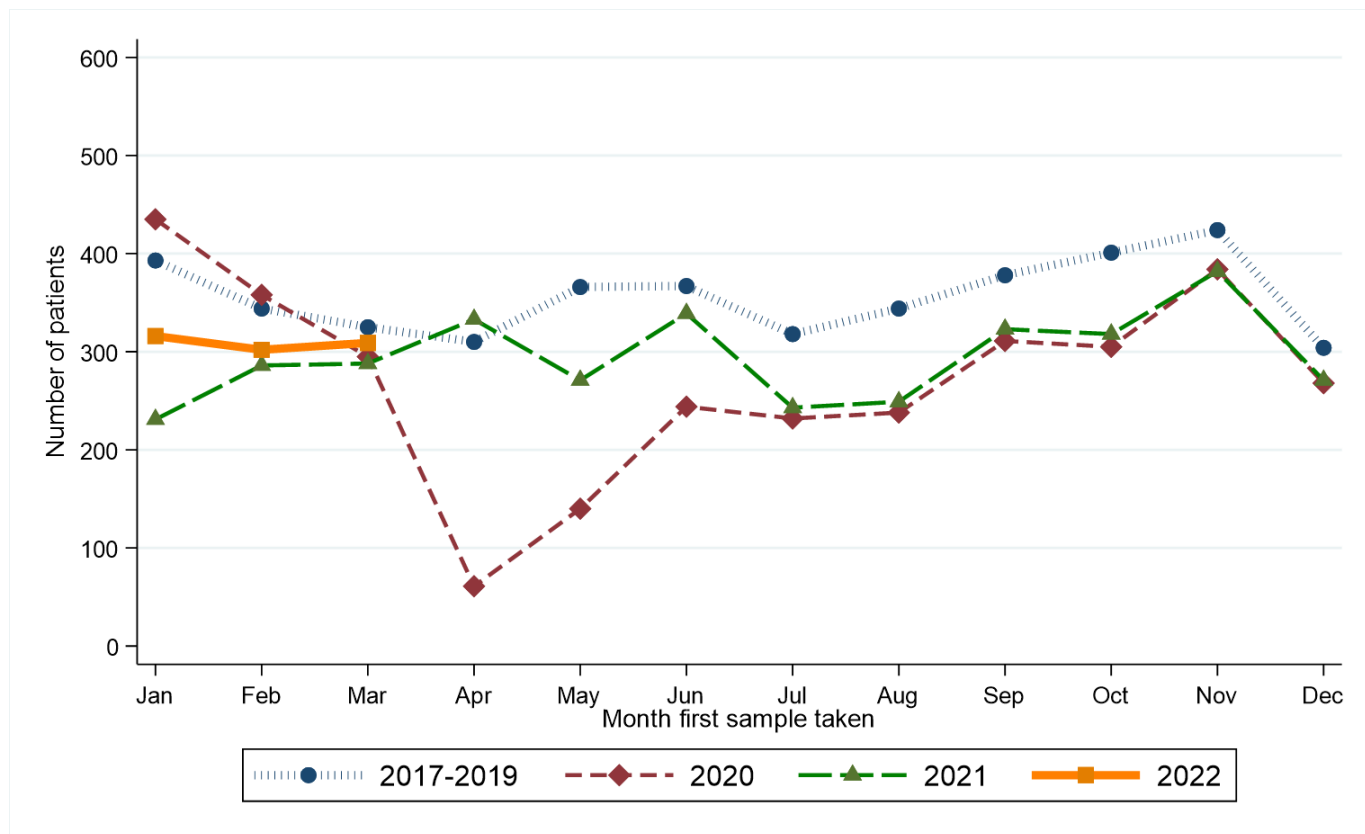
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-21.8%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	393	435	231	316
Feb	344	358	286	302
Mar	325	295	288	309
Apr	310	61	333	.
May	366	140	271	.
Jun	367	244	339	.
Jul	318	232	243	.
Aug	344	238	249	.
Sep	378	311	323	.
Oct	401	305	318	.
Nov	424	384	382	.
Dec	304	268	271	.

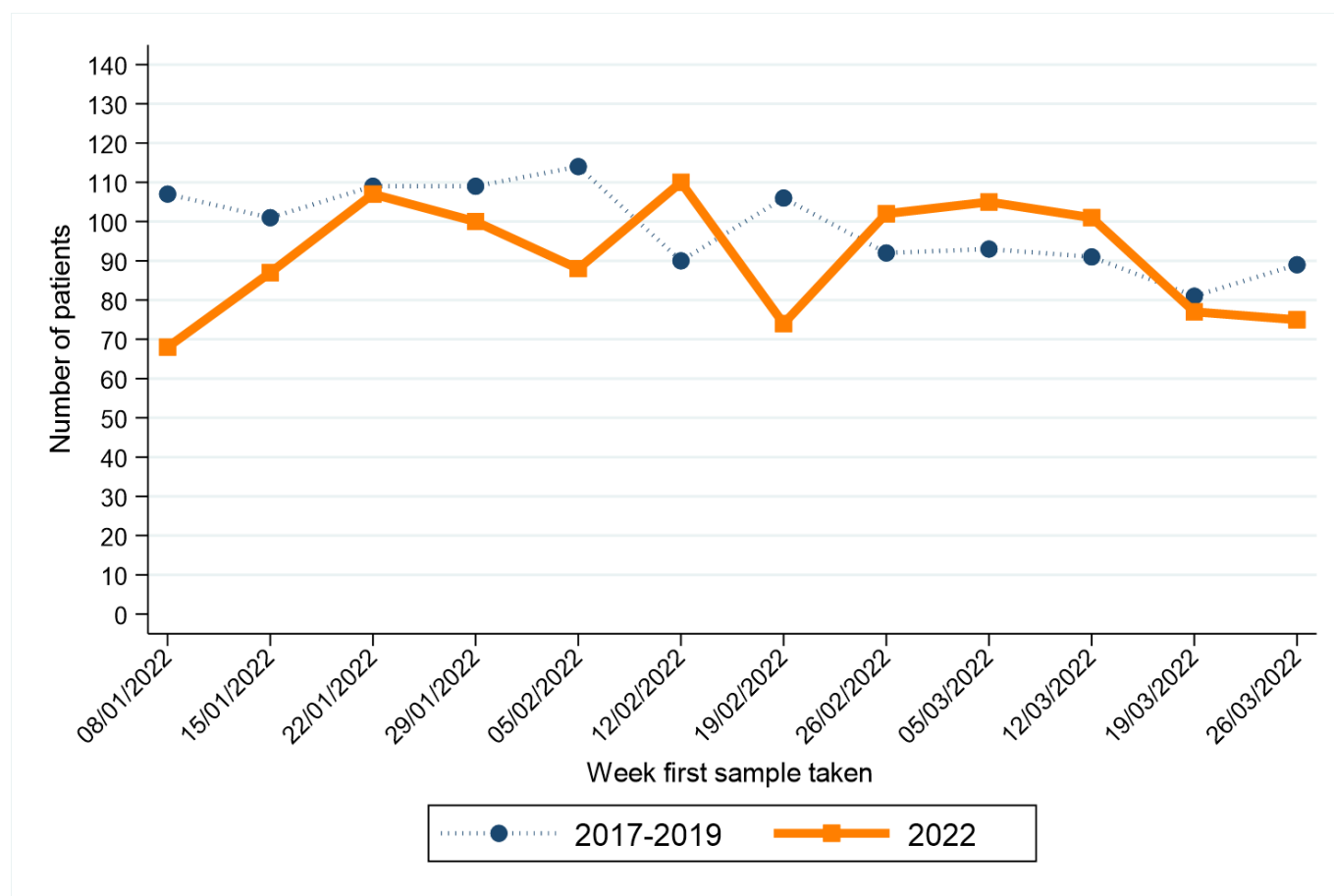
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-7.4%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	107	68
15/01/2022	101	87
22/01/2022	109	107
29/01/2022	109	100
05/02/2022	114	88
12/02/2022	90	110
19/02/2022	106	74
26/02/2022	92	102
05/03/2022	93	105
12/03/2022	91	101
19/03/2022	81	77
26/03/2022	89	75

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# OTHER CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+3.0%**



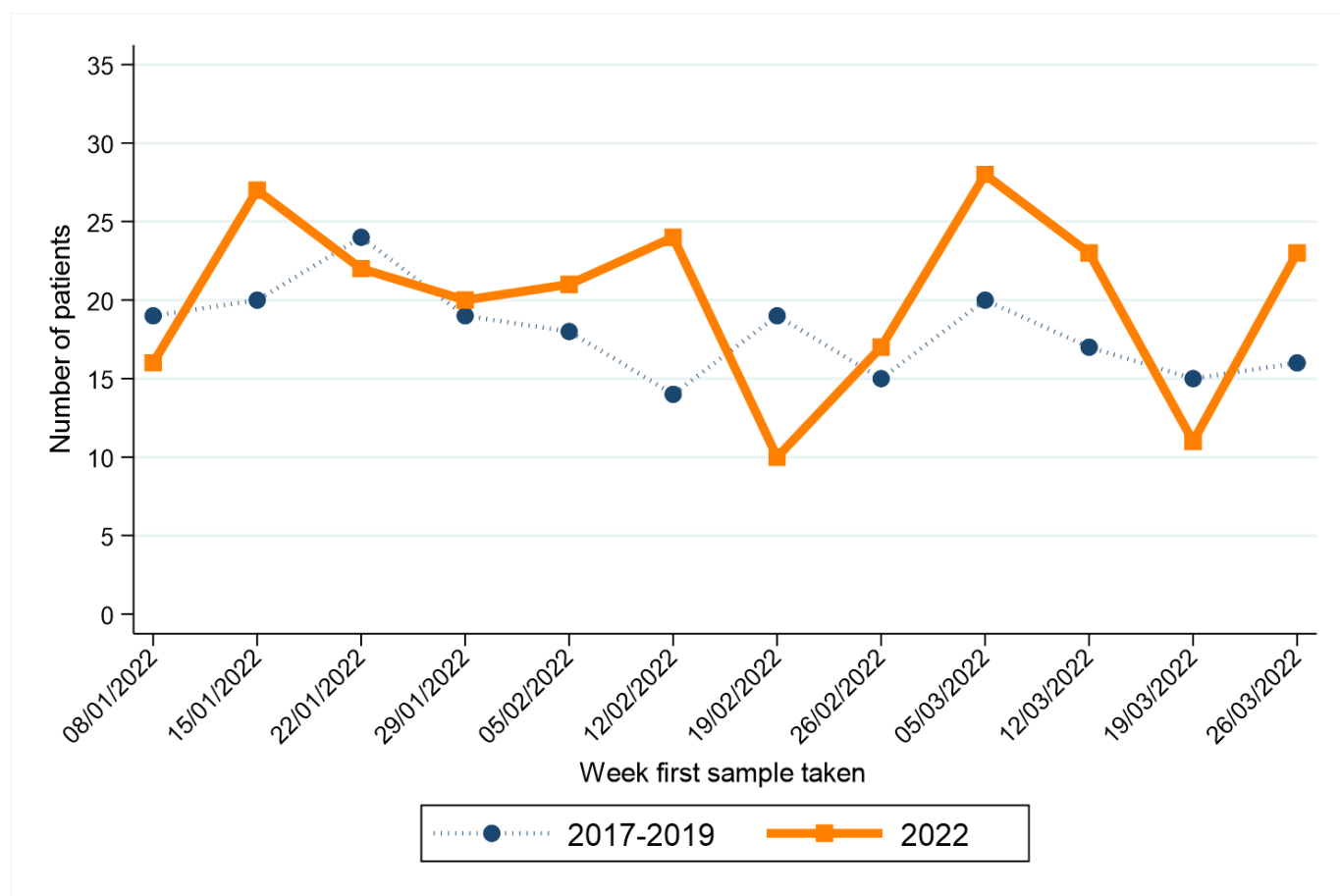
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	78	66	74	73
Feb	61	65	60	68
Mar	64	70	83	80
Apr	63	39	66	.
May	66	55	85	.
Jun	64	69	75	.
Jul	69	80	73	.
Aug	65	55	55	.
Sep	68	97	68	.
Oct	82	73	72	.
Nov	72	66	76	.
Dec	60	64	63	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 26/03/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+12.0%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
08/01/2022	19	16
15/01/2022	20	27
22/01/2022	24	22
29/01/2022	19	20
05/02/2022	18	21
12/02/2022	14	24
19/02/2022	19	10
26/02/2022	15	17
05/03/2022	20	28
12/03/2022	17	23
19/03/2022	15	11
26/03/2022	16	23

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

1. NMSC: Non-melanoma skin cancer

2. Data is sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in Northern Ireland (Altnagelvin, Antrim, Belfast, Craigavon), which is provided to the NI Cancer Registry on a monthly basis. It does not include information on pathology samples processed by private laboratories.

3. Figures represent the number of patients with pathology samples that indicated a malignant tumour and had this result coded and recorded by the end of March 2022. Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following March 2022 are used in compiling the presented results.

4. Assignment of week number is based upon a Sunday to Saturday week. The week ending label used in graphs and tables is based upon the date of the end of the week (a Saturday) in 2021-2022. This is compared with the equivalent Sunday-Saturday week in 2017-2019, although the actual date ending this week in 2017-2019 will differ.

5. Individual patients with cancer may have more than one pathology sample. A diagnosis of cancer may be a result of more than one procedure indicating cancer, for example a breast cancer diagnosis may be based upon a positive biopsy of the breast and then a separate positive dissection of a lymph node. Patients are thus only included once per cancer type unless they have had pathology samples separated by more than two years, thus a patient with samples in March and April of 2019 will be counted once (in the March 2019 count), while a patient with samples in April 2017 and May 2020 will be counted in both the April 2017 and May 2020 counts.

6. Cancer types are defined as follows:

**Bowel cancer:** Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).

**Lung cancer:** Includes lung and trachea (ICD10 codes: C33-C34).

**Breast cancer:** Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

**Prostate cancer:** (ICD10 codes: C61).

**Gynaecological cancer:** Includes uterus, ovary, cervix, vulva, vagina, placenta and other female genital (ICD10 codes: C51-C58).

**Upper GI cancer:** Includes oesophagus and stomach (ICD10 codes: C15, C16).

**Head and neck cancer:** Includes lip, tongue, mouth, parotid & salivary glands, tonsil, oropharynx, nasopharynx, pyriform sinus, hypopharynx, nasal cavity, middle ear, sinuses and larynx (ICD10 codes: C00-C14, C30-C32).

**Urinary cancer:** Includes kidney, renal pelvis, ureter, bladder and other urinary (ICD10 codes: C64-C68).

**Haematological cancer:** Includes lymphoma (all types), leukaemia (all types), myeloma, malignant immunoproliferative disease and other lymphoid and haematopoietic (ICD10 codes: C81-C96).

**Melanoma:** (ICD10 code: C43).

**Non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC):** (ICD10 code: C44).

**Other cancer:** Includes cancers of small intestine, anus, liver, gallbladder, thymus, bone, mesothelioma, soft tissue, penis, testis, eye, brain, endocrine system and thyroid (ICD10 codes: C16, C21-C26, C37-C41, C45-C49, C60, C62, C63, C69-C75). Excludes cancer of unknown primary.