

N. Ireland Cancer Registry Implications of Research for Services

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Paper Title	Survival of cancer patients with pre-existing heart disease
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Conclusion	There is a high prevalence of pre-existing cardiovascular disease among cancer patients in Northern Ireland. We showed that pre-existing cardiovascular diseases are associated with poorer outcomes for cancer patients in terms of all and disease specific survival. Results were consistent across major cancer types even after accounting for age, gender, socioeconomic status differences among patients.
What this means for the service	This study provides evidence that may allow clinicians to better communicate to patients treatment options, outcome expectations and importance of secondary prevention. It suggests clinicians should consider early identification and treatment of pre-existing cardiovascular diseases in cancer patients. Findings highlight the importance of "cardiooncology" services which provide interdisciplinary specialist clinical care and education. High levels of pre-existing heart disease among cancer patients in Northern Ireland warrants further investigation and consideration by public health consultants and policy makers regarding the prevention of heart diseases

