

## N. Ireland Cancer Registry Implications of Research for Services

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<b>Paper Title</b>	Use of radiotherapy in patients with oesophageal, stomach, colon, rectal, liver, pancreatic, lung, and ovarian cancer: an International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership (ICBP) population-based study
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<b>Full paper available online</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NOT YET <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>The study aimed to explore how the use of radiotherapy varies across different countries. Data from Norway, four UK nations, nine Canadian provinces, and two Australian states were analysed. The study included patients aged 15–99 diagnosed with cancer in eight specific sites, ensuring no other primary cancer diagnosis within five years before or one year after the index cancer diagnosis.</p> <p>We found significant differences in the utilization of radiotherapy across jurisdictions. The proportion of patients receiving radiotherapy also varied widely for various cancers, with notable differences for rectal, lung, and stomach cancers. The study also highlighted considerable variation in the timing of radiotherapy initiation, especially noticeable for rectal cancer patients.</p>

	Age disparities were evident, with older patients (85–99 years) less likely to receive radiotherapy compared to younger ones (65–74 years), with this difference varying significantly between regions. Women were slightly less likely than men to undergo radiotherapy.
<b>What this means for the service</b>	Understanding the reasons behind these variations in radiotherapy use is crucial for improving patient outcomes. Efforts should focus on identifying and addressing factors contributing to these differences to ensure equitable access to timely and appropriate cancer treatments.