



The UK Paediatric Oncology Coronavirus Cancer Monitoring Project

All paediatric oncology centres in the UK have joined the the UK Paediatric Oncology Coronavirus Cancer Monitoring Project, registering cases of COVID-19 in children with cancer since the outbreak of the pandemic. This is a summary of the data on 18 May 2020.

46 tested positive for COVID-19
1700 number of children on treatment

3% of children with cancer tested positive

50:50 equal split of boys & girls

6.5 median (average) age
48% 5 years or under

7 (15%) tested positive but had no symptoms of COVID-19

34 (74%) had mild symptoms (like a mild cold, or just a temperature with nothing else) but did not need any additional treatment



SYMPTOMS



All of the patients who required additional treatment for COVID-19 fully recovered.

OUTCOMES

Outcomes are currently known for 45 patients



82% of patients were discharged home.
16% of patients remained in hospital, unrelated to COVID-19, e.g. for inpatient cancer treatment.
2% (1 individual patient) sadly died as a result of their cancer, but this was unrelated to COVID-19.

CONCLUSIONS

- Our UK data currently suggest that children receiving cancer treatment are not at increased risk of developing symptoms from COVID-19 infection and do well even if on very rare occasions they develop the more serious symptoms associated with COVID-19 infection. This is in keeping with the data emerging from other countries.
- It is likely that a larger number of children with cancer have contracted COVID-19 and not shown symptoms and therefore have not been tested. This means it is probable that a larger group have contracted the virus and not been ill.

Figure of 1700 patients on treatment is extrapolated from English SACT data courtesy of Public Health England. Anonymised patient data provided securely to the University of Birmingham for analysis. Project steering group: <https://ukcoronaviruscancermonitoring.com/paediatrics/project-management/> Where given percentages do not sum to 100% this is due to rounding.



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Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group

the EXPERTS in CHILDHOOD CANCER