

## 90th Percentile Wait Time between Referral and First Medical Oncologist Appointment

The number of days it took for 90 per cent of patients to have had their first appointment with a medical oncologist following the receipt of a referral for services at the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile provides an indication of the longest patients will have to wait to get an appointment after they have been referred to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

## **Limitations and Constraints**

- Some patients are not ready to be seen by an oncologist on the day their referral for service is received at the Cancer Agency. System, clinical and patient reasons resulting in a delay may cause a longer waiting time (e.g. waiting for final pathology results [system delay], waiting for further surgery/tests [clinical delay], or the patient is not available for an appointment [patient delay]). These delays are not subtracted from the total waiting time.
- Measured in calendar days even though the clinic is closed on weekend days these days are still counted in the total patient waiting time.
- Includes all patients who had a first appointment with a medical oncologist during the month (either in hospital or in one of the two cancer centers).
- Pediatric patients are not included

## 90th Percentile Wait Time between Referral and First Radiation Oncologist Appointment

The number of days it took for 90 per cent of patients to have had their first appointment with a radiation oncologist following the receipt of a referral for radiation assessment/treatment at the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile provides an indication of the longest patients will have to wait to get an appointment after they have been referred to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

## **Limitations and Constraints**

System, clinical and patient delays are not subtracted from the waiting time (e.g. waiting for final pathology results [system], waiting for further surgery/investigations [clinical], patient not available [patient]).

- Some patients are not ready to be seen by an oncologist on the day their referral for service is received at the Cancer Agency. System, clinical and patient reasons resulting in a delay may cause a longer waiting time (e.g. waiting for final pathology results [system delay], waiting for further surgery/tests [clinical delay], or the patient is not available for an appointment [patient delay]). These delays are not subtracted from the total waiting time.
- Measured in calendar days even though the clinic is closed on weekend days these days are still counted in the total patient waiting time.
- Includes all patients who had a first appointment with a radiation oncologist during the month (either in hospital or in one of the cancer centers).