

Access to Radiation Therapy

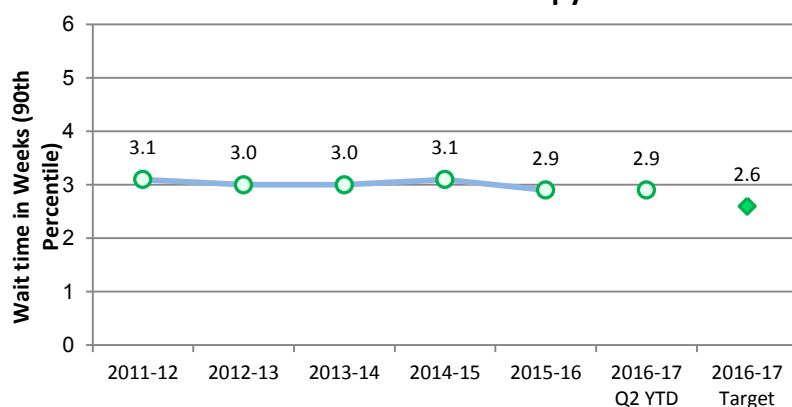
Measure Definition

Ninety per cent of patients wait for radiation therapy this length of time or less (measured from when they are ready to treat). This measure is the time from the date the patient was physically ready to commence treatment, to the date that the patient received his/her first radiation therapy.

Understanding this Measure

Timely access to radiation therapy for cancer can impact treatment effectiveness and outcomes. Currently, this data is reported on patients who receive radiation therapy at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, the Tom Baker Cancer Centre in Calgary, the Jack Ady Cancer Centre in Lethbridge and the Central Alberta Cancer Centre in Red Deer. The data applies only to patients receiving external beam radiation therapy.

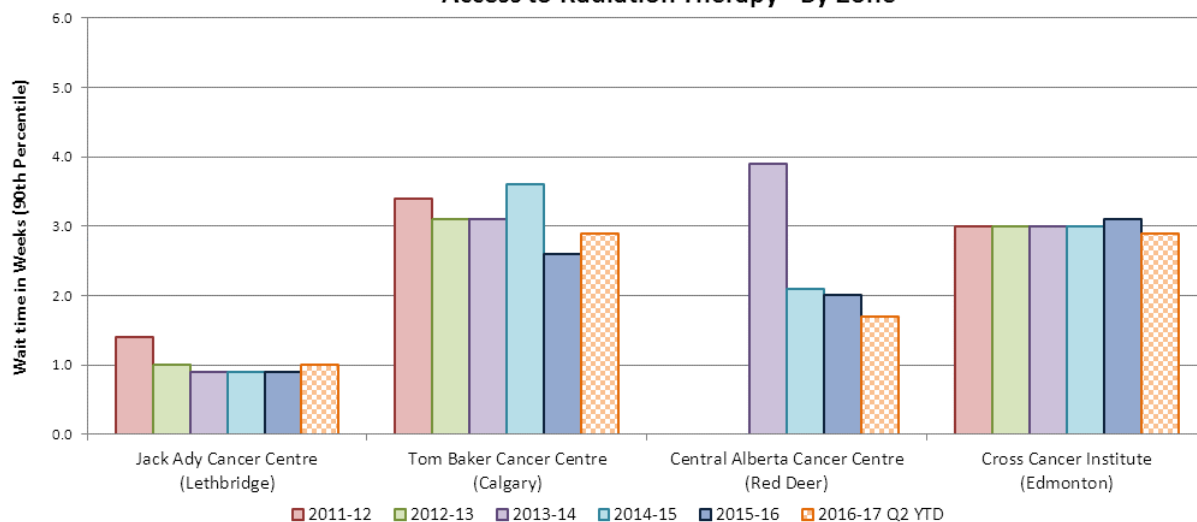
Access to Radiation Therapy - Annual



How Do We Compare?

Alberta ranks 3rd best nationally among nine provinces in Q2 YTD 2015-16.

Access to Radiation Therapy - By Zone



Note: Central Zone Cancer Center opened in November 2013. Grande Prairie Cancer Centre is planned to open in the North Zone in 2019.

Access to Radiation Therapy

ACTIONS

Work is underway to expand ambulatory clinic hours at the Cross Cancer Institute and the Tom Baker Cancer Centre.

Ambulatory clinic capacity will increase at seven community cancer clinics: Camrose, Bow Valley, Drayton Valley, Fort McMurray, High River, Barrhead and Bonnyville.

Significant capital project work is occurring across the province to improve infrastructure and address capacity issues for future patient cancer care.

SUMMARY

Cross Cancer Institute (Edmonton) and Jack Ady Cancer Centre (Lethbridge) achieved the target in Q2 YTD 2016-17. Provincial and Central Alberta Cancer Centre (Red Deer) demonstrated improvement compared to the same period as last year.

Tom Baker Cancer Centre (Calgary) showed a decline in performance due to multiple reasons including an increase in complex cases and clinical trials, an increase in volumes, staffing levels for radiation treatment planning were impacted by peak vacation times, an increase of patients in late summer and a decline in referrals/radiation therapy treatments in September to October. Currently reviewing a quality improvement project on the Ready To Treat To Treat wait times to determine the root cause.

DID YOU KNOW

CancerControl Alberta is responsible for treating patients with cancer. This provincial network of cancer professionals and facilities provide most cancer treatment except for surgery.

If you are diagnosed with cancer, your family physician or surgeon may refer you to a cancer facility to discuss further treatment options. If you are referred, you will meet with a doctor specially trained to treat cancer. The two most common types of treatment given in the cancer facilities are chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

Radiation therapy is available at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton; Tom Baker Cancer Centre in Calgary; Jack Ady Cancer Centre in Lethbridge and Central Alberta Cancer Centre in Red Deer.

Radiation therapy will become available in the North Zone at the Grande Prairie Cancer Centre which is planned to open in 2019.

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Access to Radiation Therapy (weeks)	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q2 YTD		Trend	2016-17 Target
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current		
Trend: ★ Achieved Target, ✓ Stable or better than prior period, ✕ Area requires additional focus							
Provincial	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.9	✓	2.6
Jack Ady Cancer Centre (Lethbridge)	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	★	1.0
Tom Baker Cancer Centre (Calgary)	3.1	3.6	2.6	2.7	2.9	✕	2.6
Central Alberta Cancer Centre (Red Deer)	N/A	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.7	✓	1.4
Cross Cancer Institute (Edmonton)	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.9	★	2.9

N/A: No results available. Central Alberta Cancer Centre opened November 2013. Grande Prairie Cancer Centre is tentatively planned to open in the North Zone in 2019.

Number of patients who started radiation therapy	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q2 YTD	
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current
Provincial	7,182	7,438	7,855	3,901	4,071
Jack Ady Cancer Centre (Lethbridge)	431	415	421	194	210
Tom Baker Cancer Centre (Calgary)	2,803	2,910	3,270	1,675	1,669
Central Alberta Cancer Centre (Red Deer) *	145	425	485	231	249
Cross Cancer Institute (Edmonton)	3,803	3,688	3,679	1,801	1,943

* 2013-14 Values for Central Alberta Cancer Centre are only for a partial year as it opened November 2013.