

Driving improvements in the collection of national staging data

Brian Rous

Associate Medical Director, Eastern Cancer Registry and Information Centre

Gina Brown, Gill Lawrence, [Sean McPhail](#), Steven Oliver, Mick Peake, Trish Stokes

What is staging?

A description of the extent the cancer has spread.

Stage is a prognostic factor,
but all prognostic factors are stage

Stage is important for...

- Treatment decisions
- Predicting prognosis
- Assessing early/late diagnosis
- Casemix adjustment
- International comparisons

Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011



House of Commons
Committee of Public Accounts

Delivering the Cancer Reform Strategy

Twenty-fourth Report of Session
2010-11

Report, together with formal minutes, oral and written evidence

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 15 February 2011*

HC 667
Published on 1 March 2011
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£11.00

Conclusions and Recommendations

A particular problem is the paucity of data in most regions about the stage that a patient's cancer has reached at the time of diagnosis. This information, known as 'staging data', is key to making better use of resources and improving outcomes, yet only the Eastern region has anything like acceptable coverage.

The Department needs to convey to cancer registries and, in turn, to clinical teams the value and importance of recording accurate staging data at the point of patient diagnosis. The Department should ensure that staging data is complete and timely in at least 70% of cases in each region by the end of 2012.

The numerator – staged cases

**“staging data is complete*
...in 70% of [cancer] cases”**

* We have at least one of...

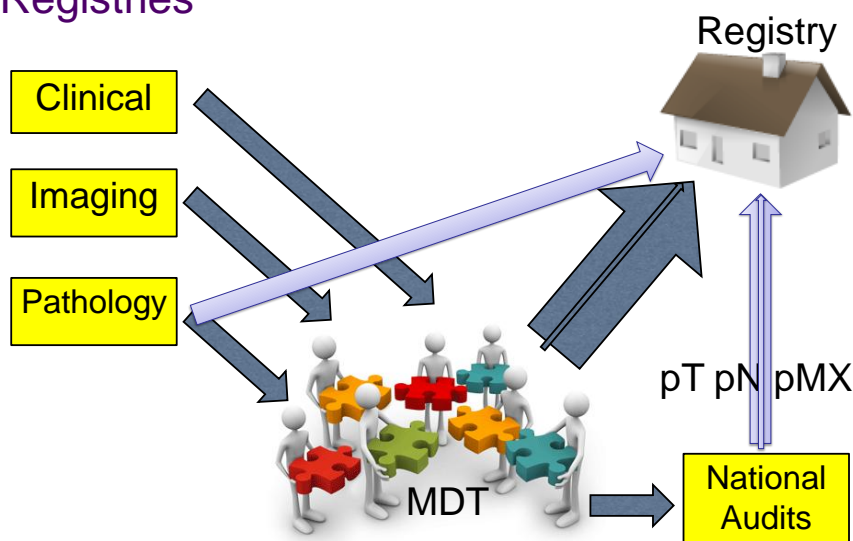
a Dukes/FIGO stage

a TNM stage group: “Stage IIA” (for any of clin/path/int) – includes Ann Arbor

3 known TNM components: “T2 N0 M1” (for any of clin/path/int)

Excludes non-melanoma skin cancers.

Staging data flows to Cancer Registries



Brian Rous - ECRC - June 2011



House of Commons
Committee of Public Accounts

Delivering the Cancer Reform Strategy

Twenty-fourth Report of Session
2010-11

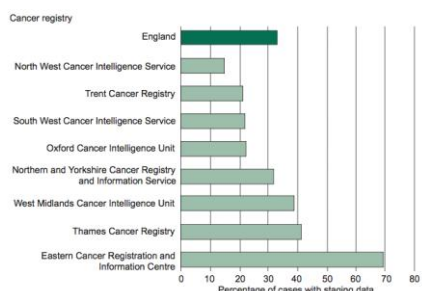
Report, together with formal minutes, oral and written evidence

Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 15 February 2011

ecric
Fighting cancer with information

Figure 2

Completeness of staging data in registries, 2007

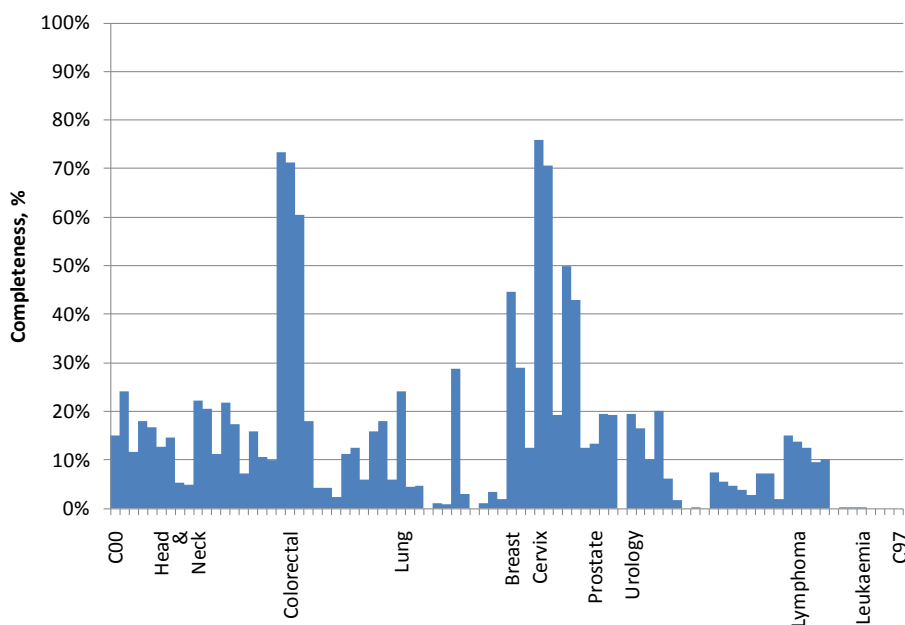


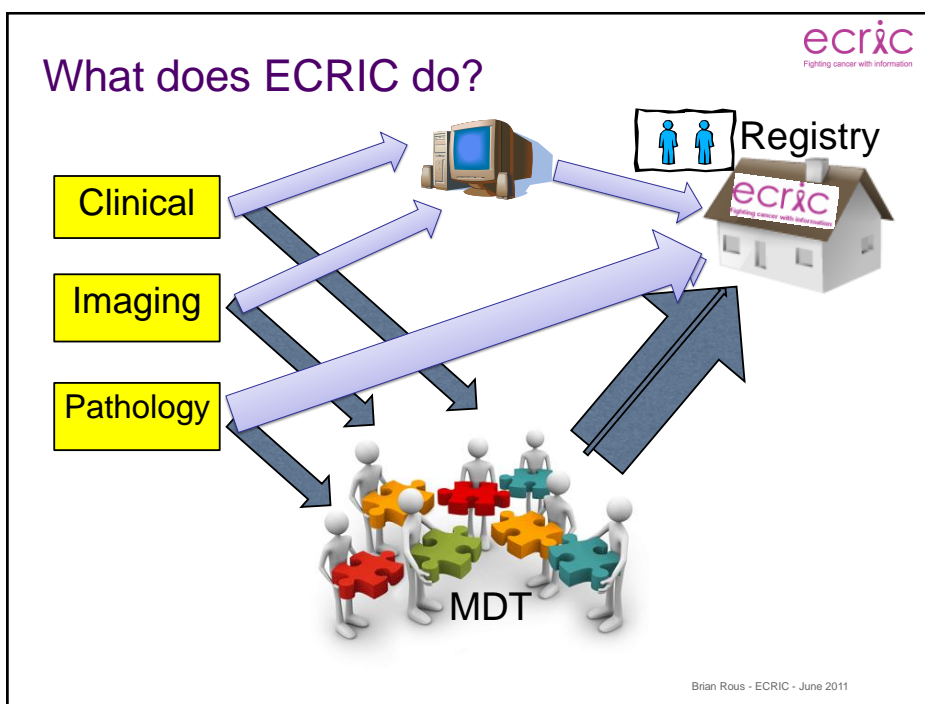
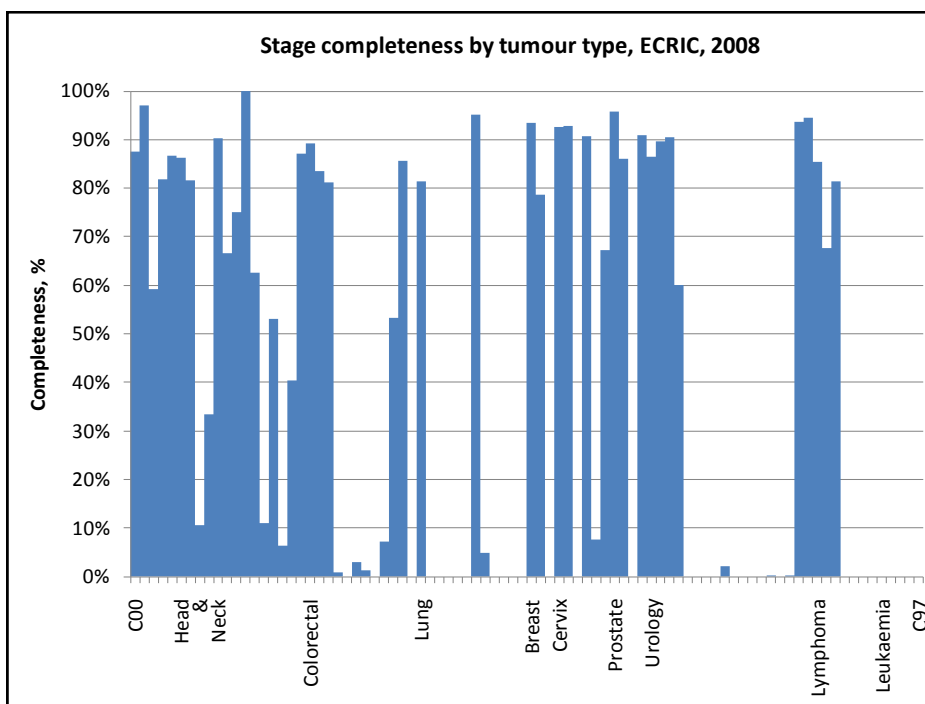
Source: National Cancer Intelligence Network

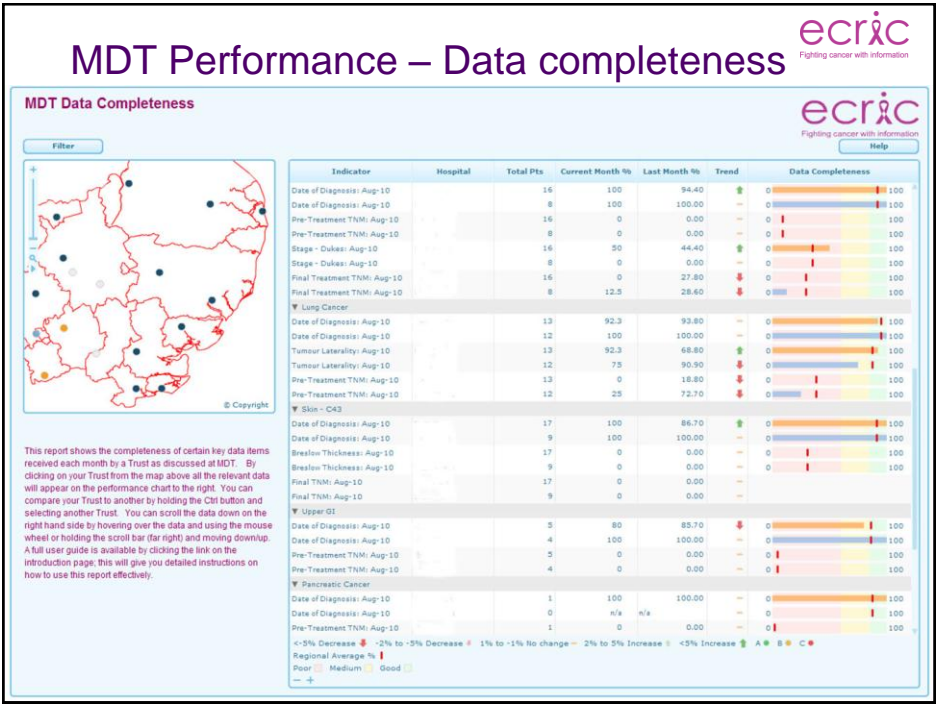
Note: The Eastern Cancer Registry stages over 95% of stageable cancers at 42 tumour sites - the graph shows data for all tumours

HC 667
Published on 1 March 2011
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£11.00

Stage completeness by tumour type, England, 2008







70%
target

Distribution of staged cases by stage type

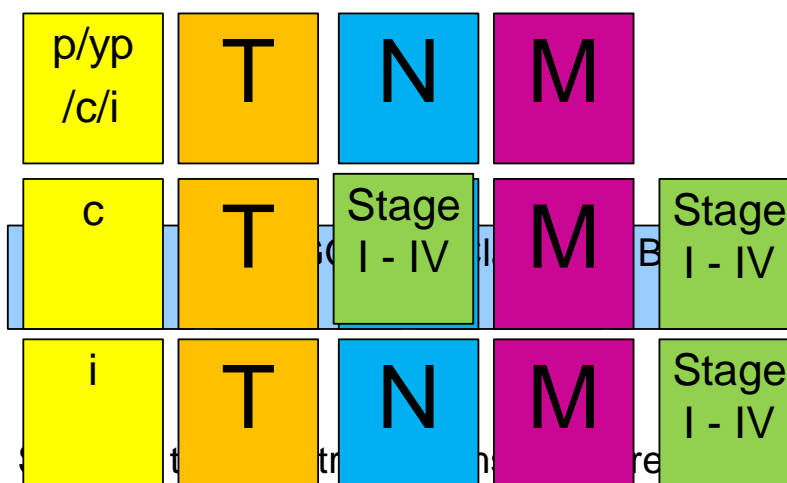
From 2008 NCDR data...

	Clinical	Pathological	Integrated	Dukes/FIGO
ECRIC	0%	0%	72%	16%
NWCIS	1%	10%	0%	8%
NYCRIS	14%	0%	0%	13%
OCIU	0%	6%	0%	10%
SWCIS	6%	6%	0%	12%
THAMES	5%	1%	0%	10%
TRENT	0%	23%	0%	11%
WMCIU	18%	39%	51%	15%
England	6%	5%	8%	12%

Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011

What do you need to collect stage?

Most registries are here



Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011

But what about...

- Dates?
- Source of information?
- TNM version/system?
- Component parts – size of tumour, extent etc
- Record all data sent



cT3 N0 M0

cT3 N1 M0

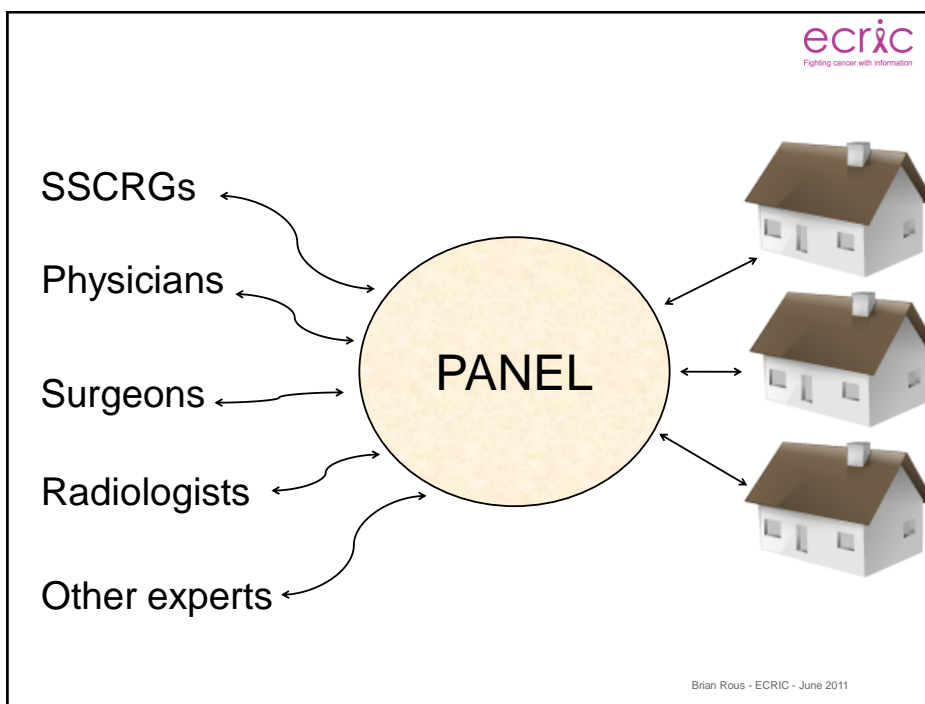
Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011

National Cancer Staging Panel for Registration

- Brian Rous
- Mick Peake
- Sean McPhail
- Gill Lawrence
- Gina Brown
- Trish Stokes
- Steven Oliver

“Support cancer registries in achieving higher quality staging data by providing guidance on managing partial staging data from disparate sources.””

Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011



Generic guidance

- Death certificates are not valid sources of staging information
- Microscopic verification
- Unknown primary tumours are not staged



House of Commons
Committee of Public Accounts

Delivering the Cancer Reform Strategy

Twenty-fourth Report of Session
2010-11

Report, together with formal minutes, oral and written evidence

Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 15 February 2011

HC 667
Published on 1 March 2011
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£11.00

ecric
Fighting cancer with information

Conclusions and Recommendations

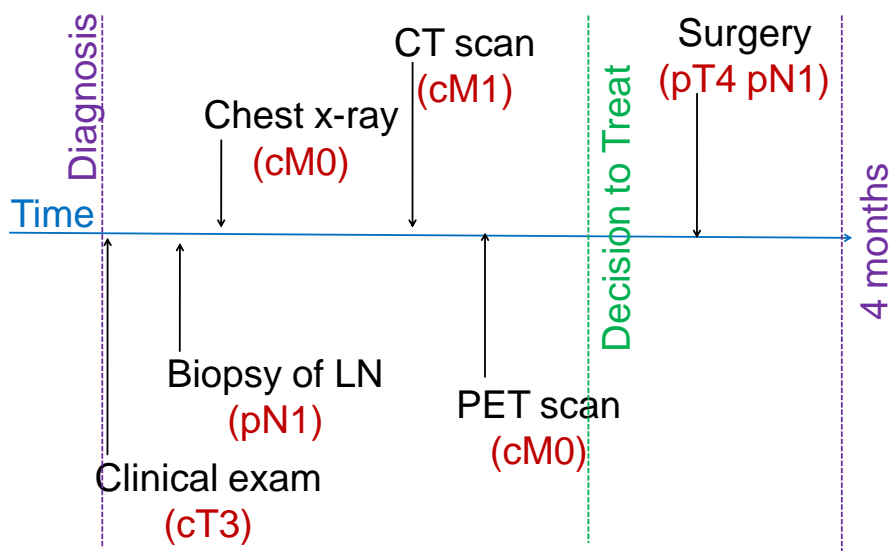
A particular problem is the paucity of data in most regions about the **stage that a patient's cancer has reached at the time of diagnosis**. This information, known as 'staging data', is key to making better use of resources and improving outcomes, yet only the Eastern region has anything like acceptable coverage.

The Department needs to convey to cancer registries and, in turn, to clinical teams the value and importance of recording accurate staging data at the point of patient diagnosis. The Department should ensure that staging data is complete and timely in at least 70% of cases in each region by the end of 2012.

Brian Rous - ECRIIC - June 2011

Stage (at diagnosis)

ecric
Fighting cancer with information



Brian Rous - ECRIIC - June 2011

Specific guidance

- Which staging systems should the registries expect?
 - TNM – AJCC/UICC, FIGO, Dukes, Ann-Arbor other.
- What site/morphologies can be staged and what staging system should be used?
 - Adenocarcinoma/Carcinoid tumour/Lymphoma of colon
- How many tumours should we expect to be staged?
 - Is 30% of colorectal tumours acceptable?

Specific guidance (2)

- How are specific tumours staged? (CT? MRI?)
 - What investigations to look for.
- Extracting information from non-MDT sources:
 - Radiology/Pathology/Oncology
- What to do if data is missing? Making assumptions?
 - Is there a clinical explanation?
- Converting between staging systems (e.g FIGO/TNM/Dukes)
- How to derive an 'integrated' registry stage from the data
- Automation?

Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011

Plan of action

- Registries
 - Need access to get access to (electronic) staging data
 - MDT data
 - Pathology
 - Radiology
- Staging Panel
 - Produce guidance working closely with registries, SSCRG and other experts
- All help welcome!!!

Brian Rous - ECRIC - June 2011