



Cancer care in the NHS

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Summary

Society responds to cancer care report

The Society has responded to the publication earlier this year of a critical analysis of NHS cancer care services by Reform, an independent, non-party think tank whose mission is to set out a better way to deliver public services and economic prosperity.

Despite more than £2 billion of investment, Reform does not believe that cancer patients have obtained the best value possible. Some NHS agencies which get involved in decisions on cancer care have little relevant expertise and many are overwhelmed. Cancer patients often live in poor health unnecessarily for long periods of time due to a lack of co-ordination of their care by overstretched treatment services. Clinical capacity has not increased because of predictable professional staffing shortages on the front line. These are just a few of the reasons that Reform gives for what they see as being a fundamental breakdown in cancer services.

The SCoR's response agrees with many of the points made by Reform but argues that measures that the think tank advocates such as including the private sector in cancer care and that managers are not being sufficiently innovative, are not correct.

The Reform report and the Society's response can be downloaded below so that members can make up their own minds.

[Cancer care in the NHS](#) PDF

[Society response to report](#) PDF

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