



A Fresh Vision for Cancer Outcomes in Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Assembly Manifesto 2016



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Cancer Focus Northern Ireland wants cancer incidence rates here to be among the lowest in the world: we want our cancer patients to have among the best outcomes in the world. This is ambitious but we believe our people deserve nothing less. To achieve this Northern Ireland needs a new, ambitious vision for cancer - for cancer prevention and for cancer services. This is our manifesto for the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections 2016.

VISION

A fresh, ambitious vision for Cancer

Cancer Focus NI calls on the Northern Ireland Executive to commit to producing a fresh, overarching strategy for cancer services, with clear measurable targets and timescales, sustained funding and with ambition at its core.

A circular graphic consisting of a solid teal inner circle and a larger, concentric dotted teal outer circle.

**By 2030,
the number of
people in Northern
Ireland living with cancer
and the long term
consequences of the
condition is expected to
rise to over
110,000**

PREVENTION AND DETECTION

To reduce cancer risk and prevalence, Cancer Focus NI commends the 12 evidence-based recommendations of the European Code Against Cancer to the Northern Ireland public.

In particular:

- Cancer Focus NI calls on the NI Executive to establish a target date to achieve a 'Tobacco-free Northern Ireland'.
- Cancer Focus NI calls on the NI Executive to support the implementation in Northern Ireland of the Top Ten Recommendations from "Health First: An evidence-based alcohol strategy for the UK".
- Cancer Focus NI supports a targeted approach to prioritising interventions around those most deprived and 'at risk' communities
- Cancer Focus NI calls for the HPV vaccination programme to be extended to include adolescent boys.

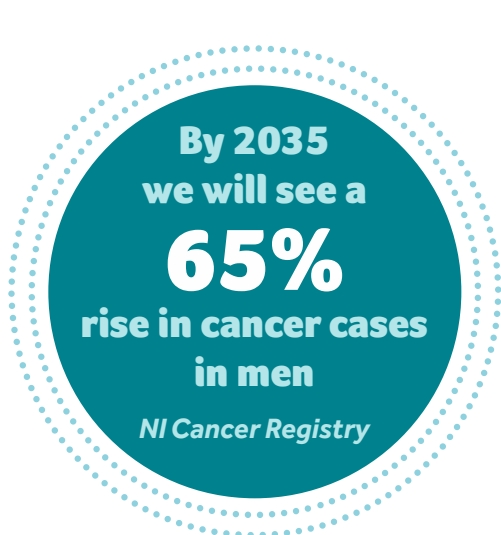


TREATMENT

To improve outcomes for cancer patients, Cancer Focus NI endorses the European Cancer Patients' Bill of Rights which calls for accurate information and optimal and timely access to treatment.

In particular:

- Cancer Focus NI calls on the NI Executive to guarantee adequate funding to provide universal access to NICE approved drugs. Furthermore, steps must be implemented quickly to ensure equal access for patients who can benefit from non-NICE approved drugs



- Cancer Focus NI urges the NI Executive to ensure full compliance with the established Ministerial Targets for Cancer, which are:
 - 95% of patients with an urgent referral for suspected cancer to begin treatment within 62 days;
 - 98% of patients commencing first treatment within 31 days of the decision to treat being taken;
 - 100% of patients with an urgent breast cancer referral being seen within 14 days
- Cancer Focus NI calls for an adequately funded Commissioning Plan as the only way of ensuring better outcomes for cancer patients here. Access to safe, high quality and accessible cancer services is an absolute imperative.

Cancer Focus Northern Ireland is a local cancer charity working since 1969 to reduce the impact of cancer on people's lives. We provide **care and support services** for cancer patients and their families; offer a **range of cancer prevention programmes** to help people reduce their risk of getting cancer; fund **scientific research** into the causes and treatment of the disease and **campaign** for better health policy to protect our community and its future.



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