



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ83420

Andrew R T Davies MS
Senedd Regional Member for South Wales Central

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3 October 2021

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your recent Written Question asking me “how many people does the Welsh Government estimate have missed an early diagnosis of melanoma due to disruption to health services as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic”.

The Wales Cancer Intelligence and Surveillance Unit at Public Health Wales is responsible for collating and publishing cancer registration data, including cancer incidence and stage at diagnosis. This data takes many months to collect, process and provide.

The Welsh Government does not routinely collect incidence or stage data at the level of a sub cancer type. We have worked with the Delivery Unit throughout the pandemic to track the overall number of cases of cancer diagnosed compared to the years preceding the pandemic and the most recent estimate indicates there are approximately 4,300 fewer cases of cancer than would have been expected without the impact of the pandemic.

The number of people with any type of diagnosed skin cancer tracked slightly below expected levels during the first two quarters of 2020-21, within expected levels during quarters three and four, and has normally been above expected levels in the first two quarters of 2021-22.

I hope you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

Eluned Morgan AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.