



Australian Government
Cancer Australia

**Report to the nation
cancers of the vagina, vulva
and other female genital
organs and placenta
2012**



Report to the nation - cancers of the vagina, vulva and other female genital organs and placenta 2012
was developed by:

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Cancers of the vagina, vulva and other female genital organs and placenta

This document provides a summary of national statistics on vaginal, vulval and cancers of other female genital organs and placenta in Australia from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and Cancer Australia report *Gynaecological cancers in Australia: an overview*.¹

Incidence

- In 2008, 282 cases of vulval cancer, 70 cases of vaginal cancer and 116 cases of cancers of other female organs and placenta were diagnosed in Australia.
- Of all gynaecological cancers, vaginal and vulval cancers had the highest average age at first diagnosis at 70 and 67 years, respectively.

Mortality

- In 2007 in Australia, there were 26 deaths from vaginal cancer, 65 deaths from vulval cancer and 17 deaths from cancers of other female genital organs and placenta.
- Together these rarer cancers contributed 7% of all gynaecological cancer deaths and 0.6% of female deaths from cancer overall.
- In 2007, the average age at death for vaginal and vulval cancers was 71 and 81 years respectively. Of all cancer deaths among women they ranked 25th and 36th respectively.

¹ All data, including data presented in graphs, are from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and Cancer Australia report *Gynaecological cancers in Australia: an overview*, unless otherwise specified.

Survival

Relative survival compares the survival of a group of people diagnosed with cancer to the survival expected for people of a similar age in the general population. Survival rates provide information on the likelihood that a person will still be alive at a specified point in time (usually five years) following a diagnosis of cancer.

Five year relative survival for gynaecological cancers in women in Australia, 2006-2010.

- In the period 2006–2010, five-year relative survival for females diagnosed with vaginal cancer and cancer of other female genital organs and placenta ranked among the lowest survivals for gynaecological cancers, (along with ovarian cancer) with survival rates of 45% and 55% respectively.
- In contrast, the five-year relative survival estimate for this period for vulval cancer was 71% and was amongst the highest survival rates along with that for cervical and uterine cancers.



45 out of 100 women with
vaginal cancer...



71 out of 100 women with
vulval cancer...



55 out of 100 women with
**cancers of other female genital
organs and placenta...**

...survive 5 years beyond their diagnosis.