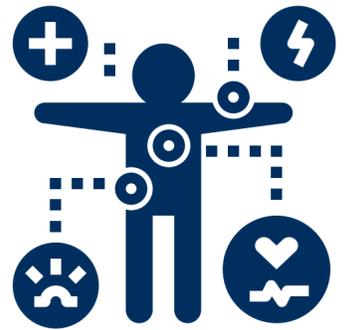


# Possible cancer symptom reporting to GPs during the first COVID-19 lockdown in patients over 50

## A key finding from the study

During the first UK lockdown, patients over 50 consulting their GP with symptoms that might indicate cancer **reduced by 36%** in April to July 2020 from the same period in 2019



## Common and alarm symptoms that were presented to general practice

The biggest reductions were in the most common symptoms



cough



fever



chest infection



fatigue

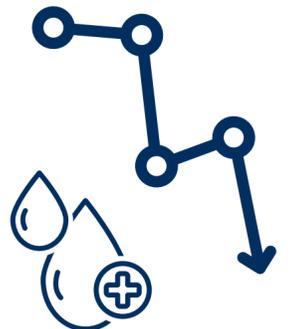
There was a **27% reduction** in alarm symptoms



coughing or vomiting blood



blood in urine or poo



postmenopausal bleeding in over 55s



a lump in the breast



jaundice - yellowing of the eyes or skin



difficulties with swallowing

## Some other findings to consider

Reductions applied equally among



Men and women

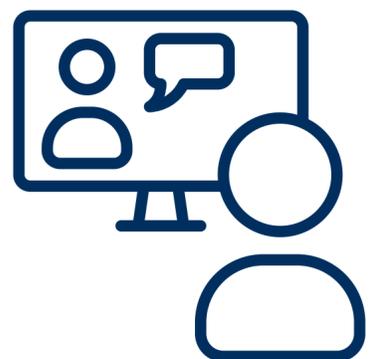


People from different ethnicities

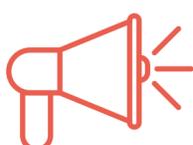


More affluent and more deprived people

Symptoms that might indicate cancer were reported less often in remote consultations than face-to-face



## Reminder about common cancer symptoms



Many of these symptoms, especially the more common ones, will not indicate cancer. But older patients should still contact their GP if experiencing alarm symptoms or persistent common symptoms.

[Click here for more information on common cancer symptoms to look out for](#)