

APPENDIX

The variables presented in this study are based on data from the National Cancer Registry Northern Ireland from 2006. The data for approx 900 women from 2006 are analysed in this study.

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Age	Age at which the woman was diagnosed
Individual treated privately	If the patient was treated in a private hospital at any stage along the diagnostic or treatment pathway
Deprivation Score	The deprivation score for the area in which the woman resided ranging from 1 the most deprived to 5 the least deprived
Source of Referral	Source of referral, including Action Cancer, GP referral, Breast Cancer Screening Unit, or other source if the woman presented outside these 3, such as cancer found during investigations or treatment for comorbidity or the patient referred herself to Accident and Emergency directly
Stage at diagnosis	The stage of the breast cancer at diagnosis, I-IV or unknown
Urban/Rural	If the woman lives in an urban or rural area
Trust of Presentation	Trust in which the woman is diagnosed, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (HSCT), Breast Screening Programme, Northern HSCT, private hospital, South-Eastern HSCT or the Western HSCT
Have a Comorbidity	If the woman has a comorbidity or not
Number of diagnostic tests carried out	Number of diagnostic tests carried out during the diagnostic phase of care
Number of symptoms	Number of symptoms experienced by the woman