

Age of Radiotherapy Machines in England, July 2021

Radiotherapy4Life carried out a [freedom of information \(FOI\) request in September 2019](#) to understand the ages of radiotherapy machines (LINACS) in service in centres in England.

As reported in [The Times](#):

- 46% of trusts are using outdated linear accelerator (LINACS) machines beyond their recommended 10-year lifespan
- In total, 57 of the 272 Linac machines used this year are 10 or more years old. One of them that is still in operation has been used for 17 years

Analysis July 2021

Using the data in the September 2019 FOI results and information from the UK Radiotherapy Industry Taskforce, it is concluded that there are currently approximately **64 LINACS that are over 10 years old**, in service in radiotherapy centres in England. And in 2 years, there are 48 more LINACS that will reach the recommended lifespan of 10 years.

A [written question](#) tabled by Tim Farron on 8th March 2019, shows that the £130 million funding allocated to the Linear Accelerator programme 2016 – 2019, funded 69 replacement LINACS, 13 upgraded LINACS and 7 treatment planning systems.

In July 2020, the [6 point plan](#) recommended a £140 million investment to replace aging LINACS