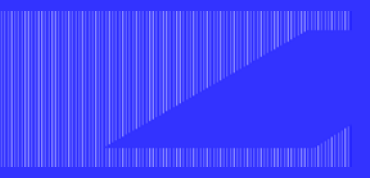


Primary Care Trust (PCT) Factsheets 2010 in Northern and Yorkshire Region



Aravani A, Tatarek-Gintowt R, Burns R, Wood C, Brook CE (NYCRIS) Northern and Yorkshire Cancer Registry and Information Service

Background

- Every year Northern and Yorkshire Cancer Registry and Information Service (NYCRIS), publishes a set of PCT factsheets.
- These factsheets cover all PCTs which constitute the Yorkshire (YCN), Humber and Yorkshire Coast (HYC) and North of England (NECN) Cancer Networks.
- These aim to provide up to date information to stakeholders and contribute to the implementation of the Cancer Reform Strategy. A cancer overview was produced by estimating incidence and mortality rates for 23 PCTs by sex and selected cancer sites. These were then compared with rates for their Cancer Network (CN) and England.

Methods

- New cases of cancer diagnosed from 2003 to 2007, within NYCRIS PCTs, were mainly used in the analysis. These data were obtained from the NYCRIS database. ONS mortality data were used for calculating the PCT mortality rates. Incidence and mortality rates for all PCTs in England were extracted from the National Cancer Information Service (NCIS).
- Age Standardised Rates (ASR) for incidence and mortality were estimated for a range of cancer sites, based on post-2006 PCT geographies.
- Funnel plots were used to make comparisons between PCTs, as well as comparing PCT rates to the incidence and mortality rates for England. This type of chart avoids spurious ranking of areas but still identifies those which are outliers. Funnel plots were calculated using the "funnelcompar" command in STATA, which computes data and plots a funnel plot as defined by Spiegelhalter 2005.

Results

- For all cancers combined, incidence rates are statistically significantly higher in Leeds PCT than in YCN, in both males and females. Similarly, Newcastle, South Tyneside and Middlesbrough PCTs have higher incidence and mortality rates in males, than NECN. Hull PCT has higher all cancer rates than HYC, in both sexes.
- In YCN, Leeds PCT has significantly higher lung cancer incidence and mortality rates than the CN. In HYC, Hull PCT has higher lung cancer rates than the network.
- In NECN, the PCTs which have higher lung cancer rates than the CN are: North Tyneside (incidence and mortality in males), South Tyneside (incidence and mortality in males), Middlesbrough (incidence and mortality in both sexes), Newcastle (incidence and mortality in both sexes), Hartlepool (incidence and mortality in females) and Gateshead (incidence and mortality in males).
- In Figure 1, age standardised mortality rates for Leeds PCT compared with YCN are presented, for both males and females.
- In Figure 2, a funnel plot representation of HYC PCTs for lung cancer incidence rates is shown. Hull PCT (5NX) is an outlier compared with England (horizontal black line), because the incidence rate lies outside the upper control limits. This means that the rate is statistically significantly different from the national one. This difference may warrant further investigation.
- An example of a PCT factsheet is shown on the right. It is a four page document including comparisons between the PCT, the respective CN and England, for incidence and mortality.

Figure 1: Age standardised mortality rates for Leeds PCT compared with YCN, for males (left) and females (right)

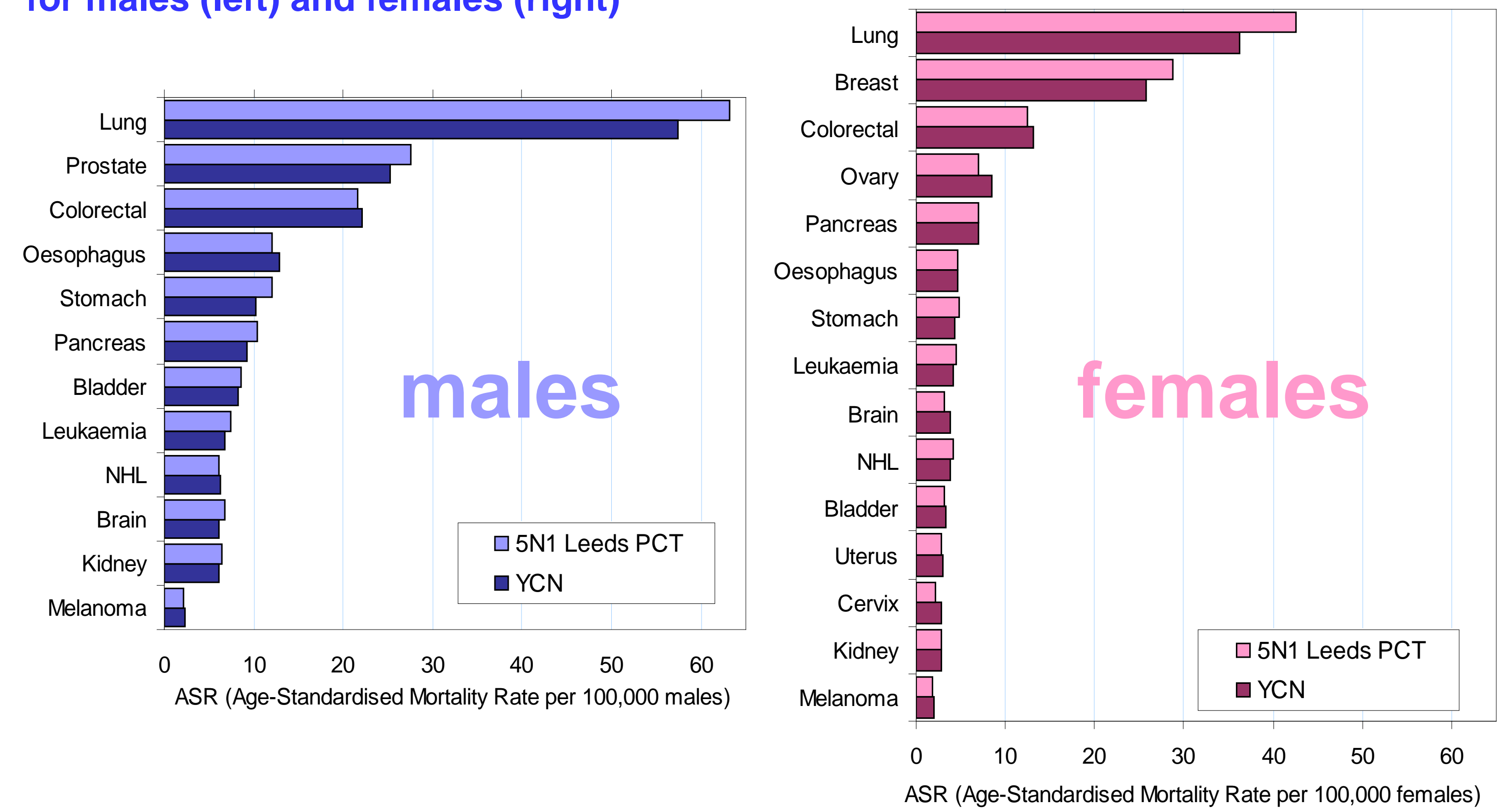
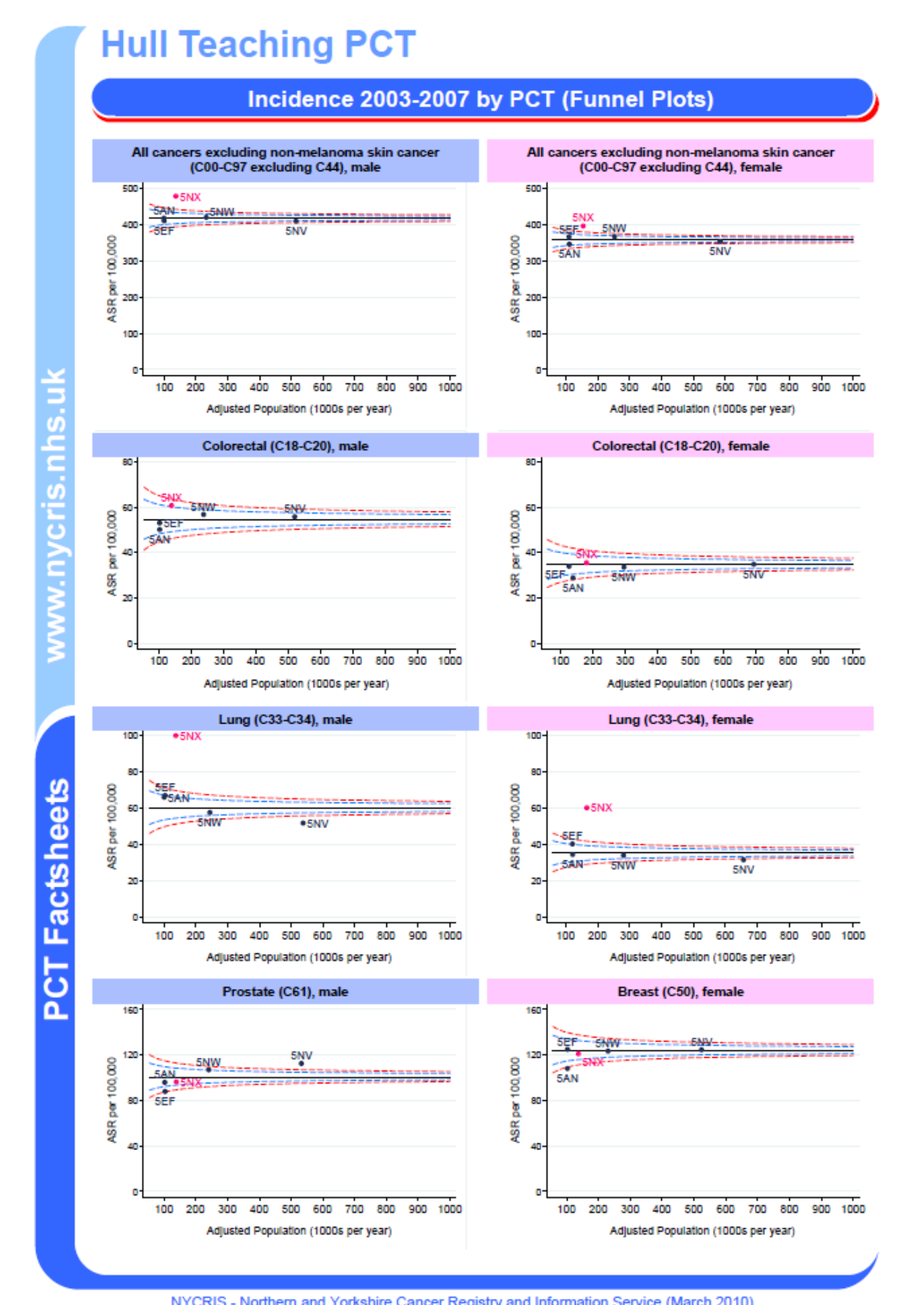
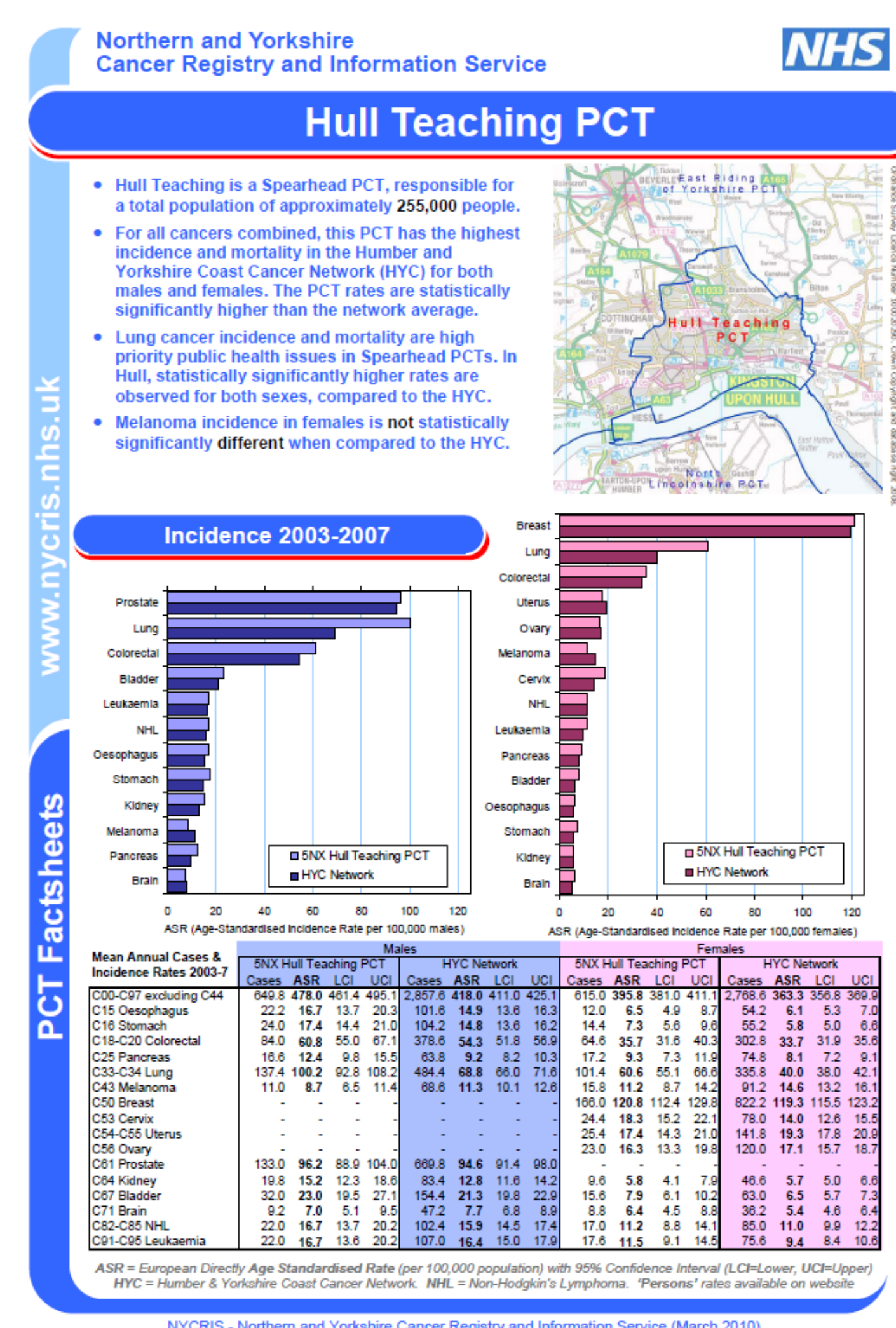
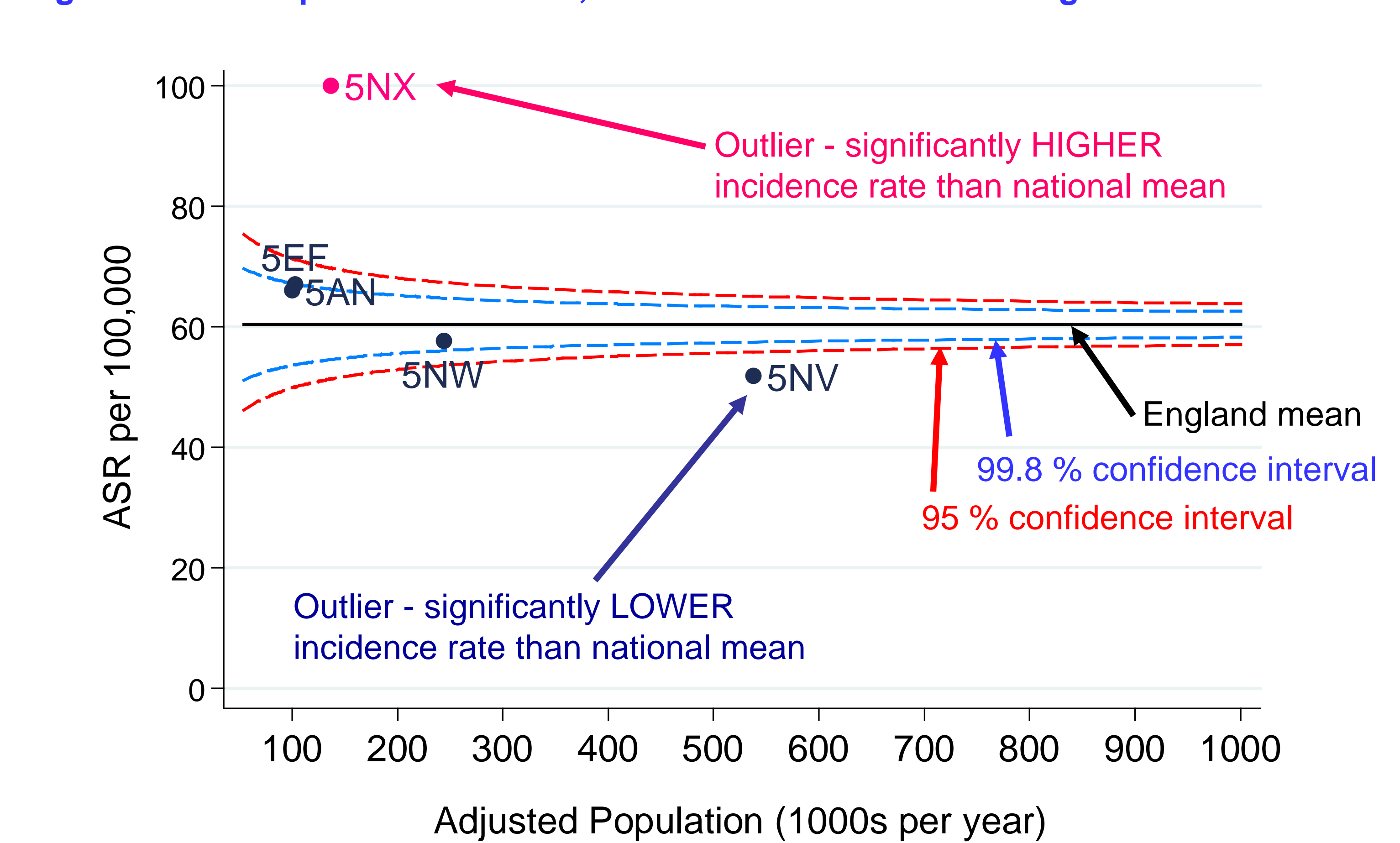


Figure 2: Funnel plot of HYC PCTs, for incidence of C33-C34 lung cancer in males



Conclusions

- The PCT factsheets give an overview of cancer incidence and mortality for each of the 23 PCTs in the NYCRIS region.
- There are statistically significant differences between some PCTs and their CNs or England. For instance, Leeds (YCN), Hull (HYC) and Middlesbrough (NECN) PCTs have incidence rates outside the upper confidence limits of the funnel plots. North Yorkshire and York PCT has significantly lower incidence and mortality rates than the national average. These outliers warrant further investigation to identify the reasons behind these increased or decreased rates.