

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/417
Gender identity services wait times

Information Requested:

Welsh Gender Services:

The below questions pertain to gender identity services at your trust for adult patients.

1. How many patients are currently on your waiting list for gender identity care?

Answer: We have 990 patients awaiting a first gender appt.

2. If I were referred today (10/08/2023) how long would I wait to be seen for a first appointment? This figure should be given in months - *for clarity we are referring to a first appointment with a psychiatrist or endocrinologist.*

Clarification requested: For question one please note that our clinical model is that we have a team of gender clinicians, rather than psychiatrists and endocrinologists. Are you asking for the wait time for a first Gender appt?

Clarification response: That should be fine for Q1 if that's your process.

Answer: GP referrals (for people registered with a GP in Wales) are currently seeing a wait of 13-14 months for a first gender appointment.

3. If I were referred today (10/08/2023) how long would I typically wait for treatment to start? This figure should be given in months - *for clarity we are referring to any form of treatment ranging from hormone therapy or surgery.*

Hormone Treatment start dates will be dependent on the Local Gender Teams within the patient's home health board. Queries about LGTs can be directed to individual health boards. Surgery is commissioned by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee and would take place in one of several sites across NHS England. Enquiries about waiting times for surgery should be directed to WHSSC in the first instance and they will direct to surgical providers.

4. On your current schedule of first appointments, what year and month were those patients referred to your service? *For example, the current cohort of first appointment patient were referred in Oct 2018.*

Assuming they were referred via GP, from a GP registered in Wales, and have responded promptly to our contact, May/June 2022

5. How many staff currently work for you service? Please can this be broken down by discipline/job role.

3.6 whole time equivalent – Gender Clinician Team
0.4 whole time equivalent - Endocrinologist
0.1 whole time equivalent - Clinical Lead
2.9 whole time equivalent – Psychology Team
4.5 whole time equivalent - Admin Staff

6. Can I confirm those practitioners prescribe bridging hormones and so on?

The WGS clinicians diagnose and make recommendations for treatment. Prescribing is undertaken by the patient's Local Gender Team. Queries about LGTs can be directed to individual health boards.

Do you look after the data for the local gender teams as well? If so, can we include the same questions for local teams? If no, please can you direct us towards the right people to obtain that data? Queries about LGTs can be directed to individual health boards.

Local Gender Services:

The below questions pertain to gender identity services at your trust for adult patients.

1. How many patients are currently on your waiting list for gender identity care?

As of 17/08/23, there are 62 patients on our waiting list.

2. If I were referred today (10/08/2023) how long would I wait to be seen for a first appointment? This figure should be given in months - *for clarity we are referring to a first appointment with a psychiatrist or endocrinologist.*

To be seen by our GPs at Cardiff and Vale Local Gender Service, there is currently a 3 month wait.

3. If I were referred today (10/08/2023) how long would I typically wait for treatment to start? This figure should be given in months - *for clarity we are referring to any form of treatment ranging from hormone therapy or surgery.*

Treatment for hormone therapy with our GPs would be a 3 month wait as treatment commences at initial appointment.

- 4. On your current schedule of first appointments, what year and month were those patients referred to your service? For example, the current cohort of first appointment patient were referred in Oct 2018.**

First patient on our current waiting list was referred by the WGS in October 2022.

- 5. How many staff currently work for you service? Please can this be broken down by discipline/job role.**

2 GPs = 4 sessions a week

1 Admin = working 2 days a week

1 Service Manager

- 6. Can I confirm those practitioners prescribe bridging hormones and so on?**

Occasionally a bridging prescription is given but this is on a case by case basis