

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/522

Hip Treatment and Operations

Information Requested:

I would like to request the following information pertaining to Cardiff and Vale University Health Board –

1. The average waiting time for hip replacement, from referral to treat to treatment in Wales (most recently available data)
2. The number planned (elective) hip operations that have been cancelled each month
3. The number planned (elective) hip operations that have been cancelled each month for the reason of ensuring sufficient capacity for emergency surgery
4. Any guidance or decision-making framework being provided to clinicians to make decisions on pre-emptively cancelling planned (elective) care due to emergency surgery capacity concerns

To clarify, I would like data on the number of cancelled planned (elective) hip operations, including any cases where patients were given a date for surgery which was later cancelled as well as on the day cancellations.

Response Details:

The data reviewed is from the period 01 April 2023 to 30 September 2023.

1. The average waiting time for Cardiff and Vale patients is 86 weeks.
2. During the period 01 April 2023 to 30 September 2023, 50 elective hip operations were cancelled. These cancellations were made by both the patient and the hospital for a number of reasons. The breakdown per month is as follows:

April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
9	6	7	14	6	8	50

3. During the period 01 April 2023 to 30 September 2023, 12 elective hip patients were cancelled. The breakdown per month is as follows:

April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
6	2	0	2	0	2	12

4. The Trauma and Orthopaedic Directorate is split between two sites: University Hospital of Wales (UHW) and University Hospital Llandough (UHL). Both sites have an emergency stream with Theatres running at UHW seven days a week, and at UHL five days a week.

The adult elective unit is based at UHL and is a protected unit. We would not cancel elective theatres to support emergency surgery but there are occasions when, due to the expertise of specific surgeons, elective surgery is cancelled to accommodate emergency patients on an individual basis.