

Date: 17/05/2024  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 8699

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Dear

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – HYSTEROSCOPY WAIT TIMES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Hysteroscopy wait times.

**Question:**

- I would like to request statistics of waiting times for patients awaiting a Hysteroscopy at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Specifically, the waiting times over the past four years for (a) urgent cases (b) non-urgent case and (c) referrals from the recurrent miscarriage clinic. If you are unable to provide this data can you please detail the reasons why and provide the average wait times instead.

**Answer:**

Daycase / Inpatient Hysteroscopy					
All Patients					
Year	Priority	Completed Waits	25th Percentile Wait (days)	Median Wait (days)	75th Percentile Wait (days)
2020	Routine	23	115.5	193	253.5
	Urgent	226	20	28.5	37
2021	Routine	23	213	407	453
	Soon	48	30.75	42	70.75
	USoC	60	14.75	18	24
	Urgent	161	18	23	30
2022	Routine	13	NA	182	NA
	Soon	70	36.25	56	87.75
	USoC	56	19	24	33
	Urgent	184	22.75	30.5	38
2023	Routine	14	NA	341.5	NA
	USoC	89	24	29	35
	Urgent	207	33	47	62.5

<b>Outpatient Hysteroscopy</b>					
The following tables refer to attendances at the outpatient services: 'Gynae Hysteroscopy New' and 'Gynae Hysteroscopy Urgent New'					
<b>All Patients</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Completed Waits</b>	<b>25th Percentile Wait (days)</b>	<b>Median Wait (days)</b>	<b>75th Percentile Wait (days)</b>
2020	62 days wait Triaged	91	15	21	34.5
	Routine	265	108	146	209
	Urgent	659	23	34	53
2021	62 days wait Triaged	309	15	25	34
	Routine	197	138	171	240
	Urgent	874	38	47	53
2022	62 days wait Triaged	425	13	21	30
	Routine	146	333.25	392	414
	Urgent	865	49	66	84
2023	62 days wait Triaged	782	12	17	22
	Routine	165	345	393	424
	Urgent	682	70	94	123

<b>All RMC Patients 2020-23</b>		
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Completed Waits</b>	<b>Average Wait (days)</b>
Routine	11	279
Urgent	6	81
Note: we cannot be sure whether a Hysteroscopy referral originated from a clinician within the Recurrent Miscarriage Clinic. This table refers to those patients who attended the clinic and also had a referral.		

<b>Notes:</b>
The above tables show the number of completed waits for a hysteroscopy procedure at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, for the years 2020 to 2023, according to the priority assigned on the waiting list.
The 25th percentile, median, and 75th percentile waits are also shown (in days).
We are unable to provide minimum and maximum waiting times since these would be specific to individual patients.*
The priority of "USoC" refers to urgent cases where there is suspected or confirmed cancer.
We are unable to provide waiting times or other statistics for <u>Daycase/Inpatient</u> referrals for

patients who attended the recurrent miscarriage clinic (at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh) since fewer than 5 patients who attended this clinic have a completed wait for a hysteroscopy (as a Daycase/Inpatient procedure) at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary during the period in question.

Note that Daycase/Inpatient hysteroscopy procedures are carried out in theatre under anaesthesia.

The number of Outpatient referrals for patients who also attended the recurrent miscarriage clinic (at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh) is low and so the total number of referrals over the period is given along with the average waiting time for each priority.

Note that when the number of completed waits is low in the above tables, only the median wait is given to avoid providing waiting times for small groups.

\*To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal). If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
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Cc: Chief Executive