

Date of Report: 27/08/2020

FOI - 5352 - Ophthalmology Activity

Question	Notes/Comments	Response											
How many people are currently on the waiting list for cataract surgery?	Provided are the number of distinct patients with a planned procedure recorded as "extraction of cataract". Please note that the numbers provided are a snapshot as recorded on 26th August 2020. It should also be noted that the waiting list data used for this question is based upon the intended procedure at the time the patient was listed for surgery and this may not always be the actual final procedure a patient has when they undergo treatment.	98											
Question	Notes/Comments	Response						Response					
		2019						2018					
How does this compare with each year for the past five years?	Provided are the number of distinct patients with a planned procedure recorded as "extraction of cataract". A snapshot of the 26th August has been used every year to compare fairly with the above response. It should also be noted that the waiting list data used for this question is based upon the intended procedure at the time the patient was listed for surgery and this may not always be the actual final procedure a patient has when they undergo treatment.  Due to a system change, we do not have access to data for the planned procedure "extraction of cataract" prior to 2018.	95						124					
Question	Response												
What is the average time a patient is on the waiting list for cataract surgery before having the procedure?	In order to provide the retrospective average waiting times for cataract surgery, or any procedure for that matter, we will need to consider each patient pathway. Each pathway is unique and characterised by various events which could impact the length of time they have waited from when they are referred, therefore providing the RTT average waiting time would be misleading.  Furthermore, waiting list data has the intended procedure the patient is due to have and this may not always be the actual final procedure a patient has when they undergo treatment. Therefore, aligning treatment with waiting list data retrospectively is extremely difficult, particularly where a patient may be waiting for multiple and different treatments.												
Question	Notes/Comments	Response											
How long has the patient who has had the longest wait for cataract surgery been waiting?	Provided is the wait time (in days) for the patient currently waiting the longest for a planned procedure of "extraction of cataract" at Milton Keynes university Hospital NHS Trust. This is from a snapshot of the Trust's waiting list as of the 26th August 2020.  This patient's pathway is unique and characterised by various events which could impact the length of time they have waited from when they are referred. Therefore this may not be representative of waiting times generally for this procedure. It should also be noted that the waiting list data used for this question is based upon the intended procedure at the time the patient was listed for surgery and this may not always be the actual final procedure a patient has when they undergo treatment.	281 days											
Question	Response												
How has Covid-19 affected waiting times for cataract operations?	Since March 2020, all NHS Hospital Trusts have suspended all routine outpatients and elective services as a consequence of COVID-19 to ensure patient safety was not compromised. Activity levels were recommenced across Trusts as COVID-19 cases started to decline from mid-June onwards and the Trust has yet to return to activity levels which were evident at pre-COVID-19. In addition, some patients on the waiting list for all procedures, and not just cataract surgery, continue to shield as per Government guidance. Some patients have even opted to discharge themselves back to their GP to be re-referred as and when they are ready for treatment.  Undoubtedly with limited access for patients to acquire treatment during the heightened period of COVID-19, waiting times have increased, not just at Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Trust, but across all NHS Trusts.												
Question	Notes/Comments	Response											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
How many cataract surgeries have you carried out each month this year?	Provided are the number of admissions between 1st January 2020 and 30th June 2020 that had one of the OPCS codes (for cataract procedures) listed in the codes sheet, coded to their inpatient spell in any procedure order.  We are unable to provide any data for July or August as there is a 6 week turn around time after the end of the month for clinical coding to be completed.	64	57	39	0	0	2						
How many cataract surgeries have you carried out each month last year?	Provided are the number of admissions between 1st January 2019 and 31st December 2019 that had one of the OPCS codes (for cataract procedures) listed in the codes sheet, coded to their inpatient spell in any procedure order.	75	78	64	63	118	65	100	70	96	91	69	69
How many cataract surgeries did you carry out each month five years ago in 2015?	Provided are the number of admissions between 1st January 2015 and 31st December 2015 that had one of the OPCS codes (for cataract procedures) listed in the codes sheet, coded to their inpatient spell in any procedure order.	89	63	88	83	102	95	109	82	84	69	53	80

## Description

C711: Simple linear extraction of lens

C712: Phacoemulsification of lens

C713: Aspiration of lens

C718: Other specified extracapsular extraction of lens

C719: Unspecified extracapsular extraction of lens

C721: Forceps extraction of lens

C722: Suction extraction of lens

C723: Cryoextraction of lens

C728: Other specified intracapsular extraction of lens

C729: Unspecified intracapsular extraction of lens

C741: Curettage of lens

C742: Discission of cataract

C743: Mechanical lensectomy

C748: Other specified other extraction of lens

C749: Unspecified other extraction of lens