

Date of Report: 21/11/2022

**FOI - 7765 - Elective Waiting Times**

Question	Notes/Comments	Response			
		Total Waiting List	Over 6 months	Over 12 Months	Over 18 months
1. How many patients are currently on the waiting list for elective surgery? Of these, how many have been waiting for i) more than 6 months ii) more than twelve months c) more than eighteen months.	<p>The elective waiting numbers are based on the position at MKUH as of 14th November 2022.</p> <p>Please note - This includes the elective waiting list for all surgical specialties and Gynaecology. Any patients waiting over 182 days are counted as over 6 months, waiting over 365 days as over 12 months and over 547 days as over 18 months.</p>	5386	2536	540	40
2. What was the average wait for elective surgery in the past three financial years i) 2021/22 ii) 2020/21 and iii) 2019/20?	<p>The Trust reports waiting times/list data as per national requirements and for waiting list, the Trust is obliged to report on incomplete pathways at a specialty/Trust level, but not at an intended procedure level. The Trust reports the number of patients who are waiting at any given moment in time (usually at the end of the month for national reporting) the length of time the patient has waited based on RTT (referral to treatment) rules; the length of time waited at any given moment in time is characterised by the events associated with the patient pathway and these events; the consequential impact can therefore be different for each patient, and there is a significant risk the length of time waited at any given moment in time may be skewed.</p> <p>It is our understanding that the information requested in this particular question is referring to those patients treated in particular years and providing a retrospective time taken between the date the patient is referred to the hospital and the date the patient receives their definitive treatment, and providing the average waiting times within this period. As each patient pathway is unique and characterised by the nuances in terms of events in the pathway which could impact the length of time they have waited from when they are referred, providing RTT waiting time over certain amounts of time would be misleading.</p> <p>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 and therefore aligning treatment with waiting list data retrospectively is extremely difficult and fraught with challenges, particularly where a patient may be waiting for multiple and different treatments.</p>				
3. Currently, what are the five longest waits for elective surgery at your trust?	Provided are the 5 longest waits, in days, from the same set of patients provided in question 1.		703 days, 657 days, 646 days, 643 days, 638 days		