



National Assembly for **Wales**
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol **Cymru**

NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, September 2004

This paper provides a quarterly summary of the latest published NHS waiting times statistics. It contains information from June 2000 when targets were introduced and measures current performance against the 2004-05 Service and Financial Frameworks (SaFFs) targets.

Information is also provided on delayed transfers of care, the Second Offer Scheme and NHS waiting times for England and Scotland.

November 2004



NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, September 2004

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November 2004

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NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, September 2004

The following information on NHS waiting times is taken from the official statistics that are published by the Statistical Directorate of the National Assembly for Wales. Of all admissions to hospital more than half (58 per cent) are emergencies that are dealt with immediately. Just over a quarter of admissions (27 per cent) are people who have been waiting on a waiting list. The remaining people have a date of admission that has been booked ahead or are subject to a plan to be admitted after a period of time based on medical or social criteria.

1 NHS Waiting times targets

Waiting times targets for 2004-05 are set out in the Service and Financial Framework (SaFF), the agreements between the Welsh Assembly Government and NHS organisations that form part of the performance management arrangements between these bodies.¹

1.1 NHS Acute Hospitals

Unless otherwise stated the following waiting times' targets took effect from 1 April 2004.

2004-2005 SAFF hospital waiting times targets for elective procedures:

- ◆ No-one to wait more than 18 months for inpatient/day case treatment*
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 18 months for a first outpatient appointment*
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 4 months for cataract treatment
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine cardiac surgery by March 2005
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 6 months for an angiogram
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine angioplasty by March 2005

**Where no-one is waiting more than 18 months, or the maximum wait offered is shorter than 18 months, trusts should improve on the March 2004 position as agreed through the 2003-04 SAFF.*

The SAFF guidance indicates that the above targets set minimum standards to be achieved across Wales.

1.2 Primary Care Targets

In 2003-2004, the SAFF target was to ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours by March 2004. In 2004-2005, this has been revised to indicate that 50 per cent of all practices should ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours.

1.3 Cancer Targets – under review

The previous cancer standard related to waiting times for patients referred as urgent by their GP. If on receipt, the specialist confirmed the referral as urgent, then the patient should be seen within 10 working days.

¹ Welsh Health Circular (2003) 127 *Annual priorities and planning guidance for the service and financial framework 2004-2005* available at: <http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2003/whc-2003-127-e.pdf>



2 Inpatient and day case waiting times

Target: No-one to wait more than 18 months for inpatient/day case treatment

2.1 Inpatient and day case treatment, by length of wait

Chart 1: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment over 12 months and over 18 months

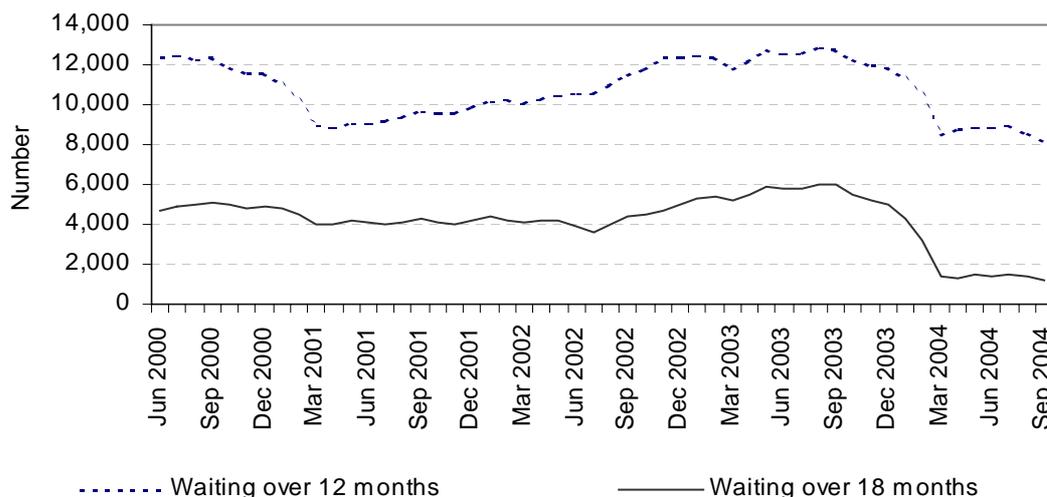
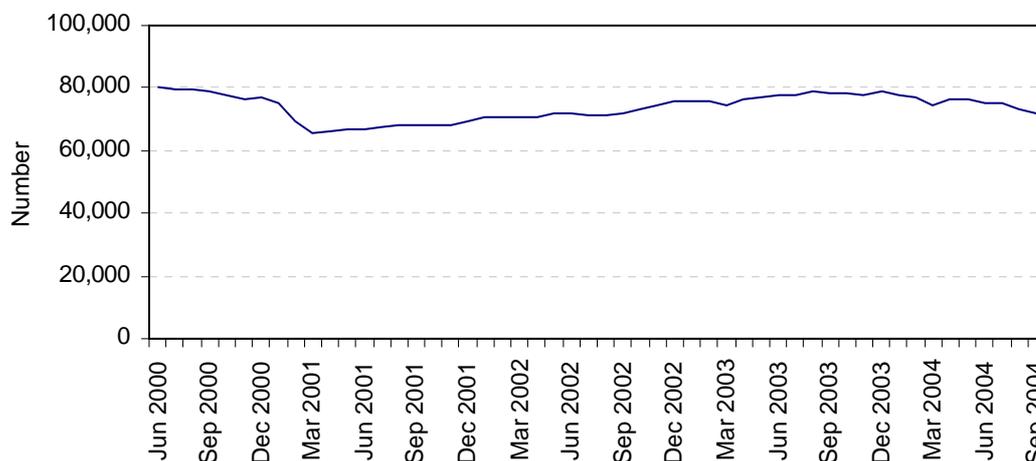


Chart 2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: total



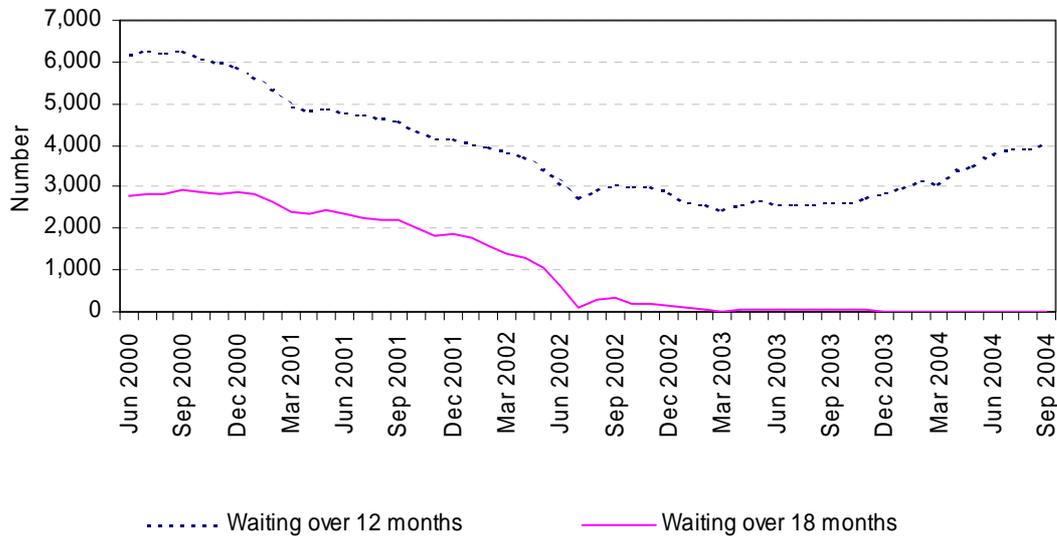
At the end of September 2004:

- ◆ there were 1,172 people who had been waiting more than 18 months for inpatient or day case treatment; 20 per cent fewer than in September 2003.
- ◆ there were 8,188 people who had been waiting more than 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment; 36 per cent fewer than in September 2003.
- ◆ There are now fewer people waiting over 12 months or over 18 months for treatment than at any time since June 2000.



2.2 Trauma and Orthopaedic inpatients and day case treatment, by length of wait

Chart 3: Trauma and Orthopaedics. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment over 12 and over 18 months



- ◆ The trauma and orthopaedics specialty accounts for 49 per cent of all those waiting over 12 months for treatment.
- ◆ The number of people who had been waiting over 12 months for admission to trauma and orthopaedics rose by 52 per cent in the last year, reaching 4,005 by September 2004.
- ◆ The number who had been waiting over 18 months for admission to trauma and orthopaedics has been fewer than 10 over the last three quarters.

2.3 Inpatient or day case treatment, by specialty

Table A1 (see Annex A) gives numbers of Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment at the end of September 2004 in the seven specialties where there are more than 100 people waiting over 12 months. Figures are given for total numbers waiting, those waiting over 6, over 12 and over 18 months and are sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months.

- ◆ Trauma and orthopaedics (T & O), general surgery and ear, nose and throat (ENT) continue to have the highest numbers of patients waiting for treatment, accounting for two thirds of all those waiting for treatment.
- ◆ These three specialties account for 76 per cent of those waiting over 18 months for treatment and for 85 per cent of those waiting over 12 months for treatment.

In the three months to September 2004:

- ◆ the number of people waiting over 18 months for admission in trauma and orthopaedics has remained small whilst the number waiting over 18 months has fallen by 23 per cent in General Surgery and 31 per cent in ENT.
- ◆ the number of people waiting over 12 months for admission for trauma and orthopaedics rose by 6 per cent whilst the numbers waiting over 12 months for ENT or general surgery fell (by 20 per cent and 29 per cent, respectively).

2.4 Inpatient or day case treatment, by NHS Trust

Table A2 (see Annex A) shows waiting times figures for inpatient or day case treatment by NHS Trust. Columns show figures for total waiting times and for numbers waiting over 6, over 12 and over 18 months.

- ◆ Between June and September 2004 the numbers waiting for inpatient or day case treatment fell in all NHS Trusts with the exception of Powys Local Health Board where the total rose from 481 to 497.
- ◆ Three trusts (Cardiff, Gwent Healthcare and Swansea) account for 90 per cent of those waiting over 18 months and for 68 per cent of all those waiting over 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment.
- ◆ Between June and September, the number of NHS Trusts in which nobody had been waiting over 18 months increased from 6 to 8. Of the remaining Trusts, Cardiff and Vale, Gwent Healthcare and Pontypridd and Rhondda Trusts reduced the numbers waiting over 18 months whilst Swansea and Carmarthen have experienced rises.
- ◆ For those waiting over 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment, 7 NHS trusts reduced their figures in the 3 months to September 2004.



3 Outpatient waiting times

Target: No-one to wait more than 18 months for a first outpatient appointment

3.1 Outpatients, by length of wait

Chart 4: Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment over 12 and 18 months

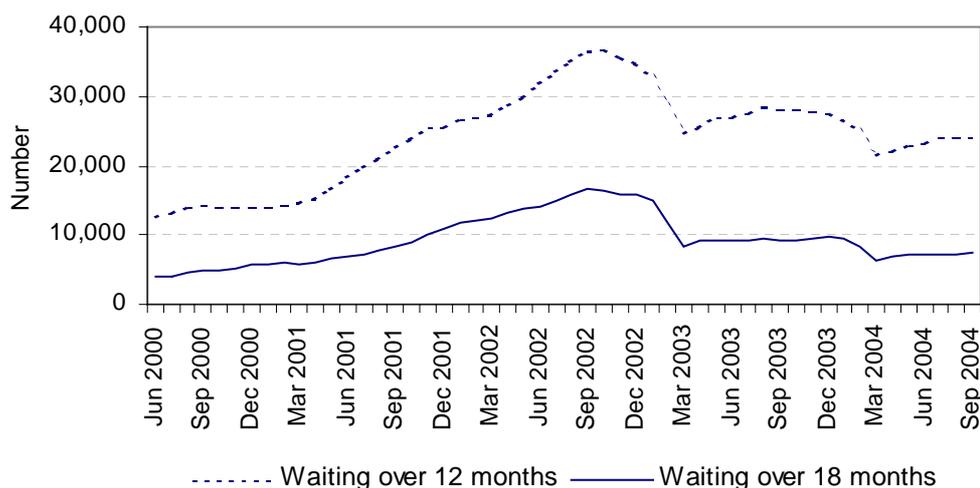
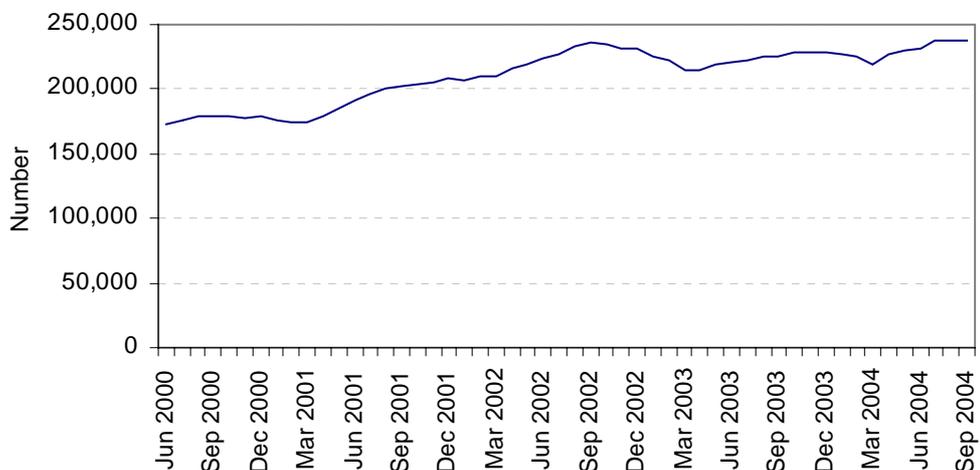


Chart 5: Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment: total

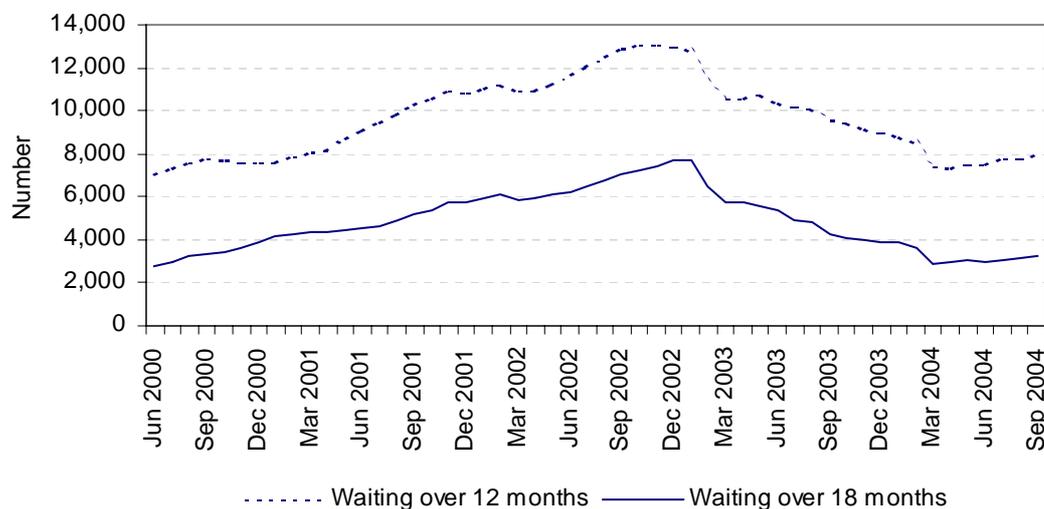


At the end of September 2004:

- ◆ Over 7,300 people had been waiting over 18 months for an outpatient appointment, a rise of 3 per cent since June 2004 but a fall of 19 per cent since September 2003.
- ◆ Nearly 24,100 people had been waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment; a rise of 3 per cent since June 2004 but a fall of 15 per cent from September 2003.
- ◆ The total waiting for first outpatient appointment was 237,200; a rise of 2 per cent higher since June 2004 and 5 per cent since in September 2003.

3.2 Trauma and Orthopaedics outpatients, by length of wait

Chart 6: Trauma and Orthopaedics. Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment over 12 and over 18 months



- ◆ Trauma and orthopaedics (T & O) accounts for 45 per cent of all those waiting over 18 months for an outpatient attendance.
- ◆ 3,281 people had been waiting over 18 months for an appointment in T & O at the end of September 2004; 11 per cent more than in June 2004 but 23 per cent fewer than in September 2003.

3.3 First outpatient appointment, by speciality

Table A3 (see Annex A) gives numbers of Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment, for the 12 specialties where there are more than 500 people waiting over 12 months. Figures are given for total numbers waiting, those waiting over 6, over 12 and over 18 months and are sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months.

- ◆ Three specialties (Trauma and orthopaedics, ENT surgery and Plastic surgery) account for over half (54 per cent) of those waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment. Of those specialties only trauma and orthopaedics showed an increase in the numbers waiting that long in the last quarter.
- ◆ The number of specialties with more than 500 people waiting over 12 months has increased from 9 to 12 since the June 2004.

3.4 First outpatient appointment, by NHS Trust

Table A4 (see Annex A) gives the numbers of Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment by NHS Trust and includes the total number waiting, and those waiting over 6, 12 and 18 months.

Between June and September 2004:

- ◆ The total number waiting for an outpatient appointment increased in all but 3 NHS Trusts (Carmarthen, North East Wales and Velindre).



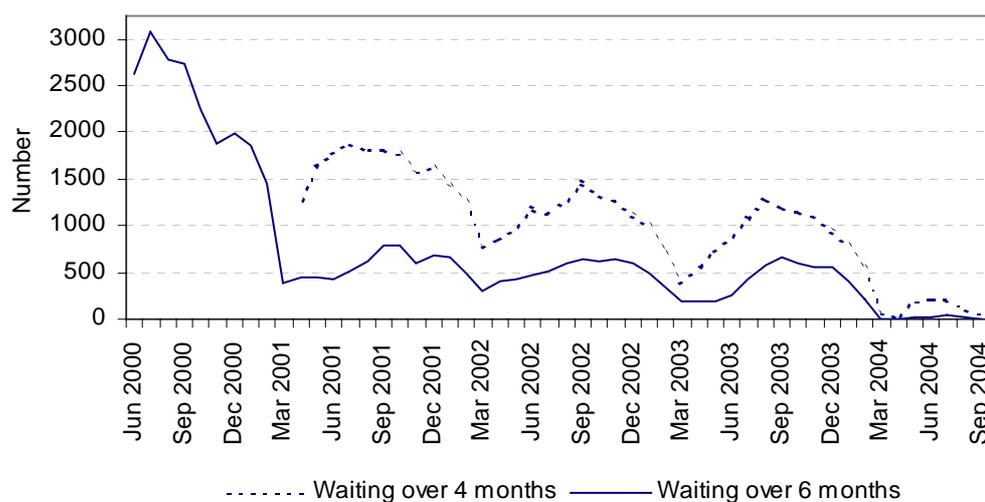
- ◆ The number of NHS trusts with no people waiting over 18 months rose from 6 to 8.
- ◆ Cardiff and Vale and Swansea accounted for 85 per cent of all those waiting over 18 months for an appointment. Whilst there was a fall in the number waiting that long in Cardiff and Vale there was an increase in Swansea of 10 per cent.
- ◆ Numbers of those waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment increased in all but five NHS Trusts - Bro Morgannwg, Conwy and Denbighshire, Gwent, Pembrokeshire and Powys.

4 Specific Targets: Cataracts, Cardiac surgery, Angiograms, Angioplasty Primary Care and Cancer.

4.1 Cataract Surgery

Target: No-one to wait more than 4 months for cataract surgery

Chart 7: Cataract surgery. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 4^(a) and over 6 months



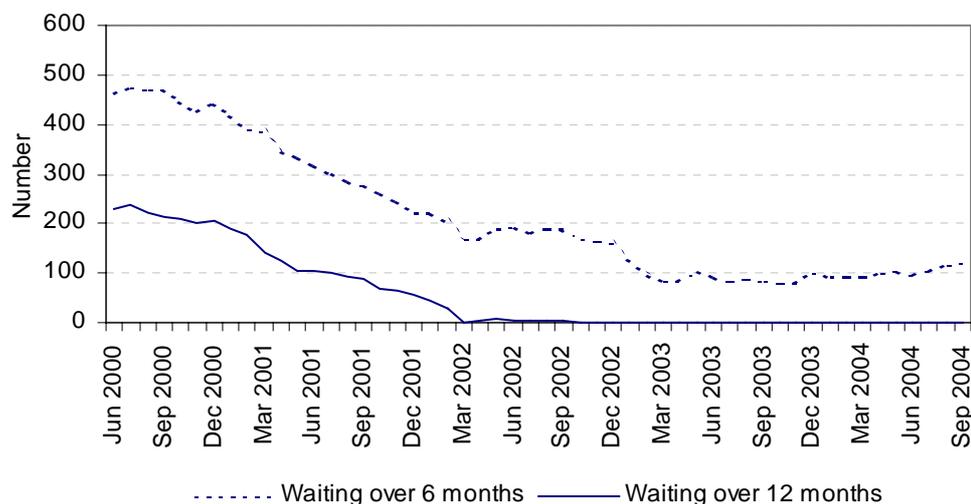
^(a) Collection of information on patients waiting over 4 months only started from April 2001.

- ◆ 58 people had been waiting over 4 months for cataract surgery at the end of September 2004; down from 1,193 in September 2003.

4.2 Cardiac Surgery

Target: No-one to wait more than 8 months for cardiac surgery by March 2005

Chart 8: Cardiac surgery specialty^(a). Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 6 and over 12 months



^(a) Figures include cardio-thoracic and paediatric cardiac surgery as well as adult cardiac surgery

Figures for the number of patients waiting over 8 months for cardiac surgery have only been collated since June 2004.

At the end of September 2004:

- ◆ 51 people had been waiting more than 8 months for cardiac surgery, 23 (81 per cent) more than in June 2004.
- ◆ 122 people had been waiting more than 6 months for cardiac surgery, 26 (27 per cent) more than in June 2004 and 38 (45 per cent) more than in September 2003.

4.3 Angiograms

Target: No one to wait more than 6 months for an angiogram

At the end of September 2004, there were 3 patients who have been waiting longer than 6 months for an angiogram.

4.4 Angioplasty

Target: No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine angioplasty

At the end of September 2004, there was only one person who had been waiting longer than 8 months for angioplasty.

4.5 Primary Care

Target: 50 per cent of all practices to ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours.

At present data are not available from all GP practices in Wales to allow performance against this measure to be monitored at an all-Wales level. The Welsh Assembly Government reports that progress is being made on the installation of software in GP practices and that the majority now have the mechanisms in place to enable them to monitor and report on patient throughput.

4.6 Cancer

Target: Currently under review². The previous cancer standard related to waiting times for patients referred as urgent by their GP. If on receipt, the specialist confirmed the referral as urgent, then the patient should be seen within 10 working days.

Information on progress towards achieving waiting times standards for primary urgent referrals with suspected cancer is not published regularly.

In an answer to an Assembly Question (WAQ29101, 23 October 2003) asking how many patients wait more than the 10 working day standard the Minister for Health and Social Services gave the following response:

“The Welsh Cancer Standard relating to waiting times require patients to be referred urgently by their GP. On receipt at the hospital, the referral must be confirmed as urgent by the specialist with the patient being seen within 10 working days. All trusts are monitoring their compliance with the standard for 7 cancers, including breast cancer, and are working to improve their performance. The National Institute for Clinical Excellence will be providing guidance for referral for patients with suspected cancer in the near future.

Work is currently in hand to review the Cancer Standards and in the future more emphasis will be placed on waiting times from referral to start of treatment. Information on Trust performance against this revised waiting times standard is being taken forward.”

² Information on the consultation regarding new cancer standards can be found at: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites/page.cfm?OrgID=322&PID=6967>.

5 Second Offer Scheme

Since the last quarter, the Second Offer Scheme Team has become established and the availability of monitoring data has improved. The Welsh Assembly Government has stated that the team will continue collecting information about why patients decline the opportunity of having their treatment at an alternative hospital and use that to help inform and improve take up.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 provide information on numbers of patients who have been:

- ◆ made an offer on the Scheme and a breakdown of responses;
- ◆ referred to, and treated by, in-house solutions; and
- ◆ referred to, and treated by, an alternative provider together with a breakdown of alternative providers used.

Key figures from Second Offer scheme to the end of September 2004:

- ◆ Of those 3,787 patients to whom a second offer of treatment has been made 51 per cent have accepted an offer, whilst 23 per cent have declined.
- ◆ Of those declining an offer from the scheme the largest number is in Swansea where 587 (32 per cent of those given a second offer) have declined.
- ◆ Of those identified for the Second Offer Scheme, 1,098 have been referred to an in-house solution whereas 984 have been referred to an alternative provider.
- ◆ Of those who had treatment through the Scheme up to the end of September 2004, 721 had been treated by in-house solutions whilst 638 had been treated at an alternative provider.
- ◆ Treatment at an alternative provider varied according to the area of residence of the patient. The majority of those from south east Wales were treated in the BUPA hospital in Cardiff or St Josephs in Newport. Others received treatment within the Nuffield Hospital Group or at the Kidderminster Treatment centre.



Table 1: Patients to whom a Second Offer has been made, as at 30 September 2004

NHS Trust	<i>Number</i>					
	Patients to whom a 2nd offer has been made	Patients who have accepted an offer	Patients no longer requiring treatment	Patients who have declined an offer	Patients contacted who were ineligible	Patients who were non contactable or undecided
Bro Morgannwg	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiff & Vale	1,133	640	36	140	141	176
Carmarthenshire	7	7	0	0	0	0
Ceredigion	11	5	0	4	1	1
Conwy & Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gwent	593	392	0	123	47	31
North East Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Glamorgan	0	0	0	0	0	0
North West Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pembrokeshire & Derwen	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pontypridd & Rhondda	228	131	19	31	0	47
Powys	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea	1,815	769	136	587	40	283
All Wales	3,787	1,944	191	885	229	538

Table 2: Numbers of patients referred to, and treated through, in-house solutions, as at 30 September 2004

NHS Trust	<i>Number</i>	
	Patients referred direct to in-house solutions ⁽¹⁾	Patients treated through in-house solutions
Bro Morgannwg	260	28
Cardiff and Vale ⁽²⁾
Carmarthenshire	254	0
Ceredigion	7	1
Conwy and Denbighshire	0	0
Gwent	358	358
North East Wales	0	0
North Glamorgan	0	0
North West Wales	10	10
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	1	0
Pontypridd and Rhondda	0	8
Powys	17	17
Swansea	0	0
All Wales	1,098	721

(1) The number referred direct to in-house solutions will include patients that are being treated to meet the 12 month target.

(2) Figures for Cardiff and Vale are not available due to an error with the data supplied.

Table 3: Numbers of patients referred for treatment to alternative providers, as at 30 September 2004

NHS Trust	Alternative providers of treatment							Number
	Referred to alternative provider	Treated by alternative provider	BUPA, Cardiff	Nuffield Hospital Group	St Josepchs, Newport	Kidderminster Treatment Centre	Werndale, Carmarthen	
Cardiff and Vale	486	570	460	80	0	30	0	
Carmarthen	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ceredigion	5	4	0	0	0	0	4	
Gwent	290	60	1	0	57	2	0	
Pontypridd and Rhondda	163	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Swansea ⁽¹⁾	
All Wales	984	638	465	80	57	32	4	

(1) Figures for Swansea are not available due to problems with the data capture system at the trust.

The Welsh Assembly Government has stated that in the Nuffield Hospital Group patients may be referred to one of a number of their hospitals. These are most likely to be in Bristol, Warwick, Cheltenham, Birmingham, Hereford or Taunton. It is also possible patients might be referred to Oxford or Slough.

6 Delayed transfers of care

The tables in Annex B present a summary of the latest statistical information published on delayed transfers of care in Wales³.

In September 2004:

- ◆ the total number of patients experiencing a delayed transfer of care was 785. Of these 237 were delayed in mental health facilities and 548 were in other acute and community hospitals.
- ◆ The number of patients experiencing delays was 8 per cent less than in June 2004 and 30 per cent less than in September 2003.
- ◆ The beds occupied by people experiencing delays represented 5.5 per cent of all available beds.
- ◆ Delays for social care reasons accounted for 29 per cent of all delays, compared to 26 per cent for healthcare reasons and 44 per cent for other reasons.

³ The Statistical Release SDR 76/2004 Delayed Transfers of Care: September 2004
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/health/2004/hdw20041026-e.htm>

7 Waiting times in England and Scotland

6.1 England

Tables 4 and 5 present figures for Welsh residents and English residents waiting for in-patient or day case treatment and a first outpatient appointment at the end of June 2004.

The latest information on waiting lists in England, relating to June 2004, can be accessed on the Department of Health website.⁴

Waiting for inpatient or day case treatment

In Table 4, caution should be exercised in comparing information from two different collection systems as definitions may not be interpreted in exactly the same way, even though the same definitions are broadly applied.

Table 4: Residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: June 2004

	Wales		England	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 Population	Number	Rate per 10,000 Population
Total	75,517	257.0	871,290	174.8
Waiting over 6 months	26,881	91.5	74,523	14.9
Waiting over 12 months	8,940	30.4	58	0.0
Waiting over 18 months	1,447	4.9	..	..

Source: Department of Health website, StatsWales website

At the end of June 2004:

- ◆ 8,940 people in Wales were recorded as having been waiting more than 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment compared to 58 in England.
- ◆ As a rate per 10,000 head of population, the number of people waiting for inpatient or day case treatment in Wales was higher than in England.

Waiting for first outpatient appointment

Figures relating to people waiting for a first outpatient appointment are not collected in the same form in England and in Wales. The following should be noted:

- ◆ English figures only relate to written referral requests from GPs which, according to the Department of Health, represent about 68 per cent of all referrals.
- ◆ In England the number of people still waiting at a given time who had been waiting more than 13 weeks (3 months) and 21 weeks (approximately 5 months) are collected. The number of people waiting more than 6 months (26 weeks) for an outpatient appointment is no longer collected in England.
- ◆ No comparative figures are available for the total waiting for first outpatient appointment at any one time or for those waiting over 6, 12 or 18 months.

⁴ <http://www.performance.doh.gov.uk/waitingtimes/index.htm>



Table 5 shows the numbers in Wales waiting over 3 months or over 6 months and the numbers in England waiting over 3 months or over 5 months for first outpatient appointment at the end of June 2004.

Table 5: Residents waiting for first outpatient appointment: June 2004

	Wales		England (a)	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population	Number	Rate per 10,000 Population
Total	232,168	790.2	..	..
Waiting over 3 months	124,329	423.2	77,562	15.6
Waiting over 5 months	..	..	415	0.1
Waiting over 6 months	71,361	242.9	..	..

Source: Department of Health website, StatsWales website

(a) English figures only relate to written referrals from GPs, which represent about 68% of all recorded referral requests.



6.2 Scotland

In Scotland the numbers of people waiting for an outpatient appointment are not collected and published centrally. Table 6 below presents waiting times for inpatient and day cases treatment in Scotland from June 2003 to June 2004 (the latest available figures).

Figures collected on the number waiting for inpatient and day case treatment in Scotland are not on a comparable basis to those for England and Wales in Table 4. A major change in the way in which waiting list information is collected was introduced in Scotland from 1 April 2003. An explanation of the changes was provided in an earlier Members' Research Service quarterly bulletin.⁵ Latest figures for Scotland are available from the Information Services Division of NHS Scotland, which also includes an explanation of the categories of the Availability Status Code (ASC) used in Table 6 below.⁶

It would not be valid to compare the rates for Scotland in Table 6 with those for England and Wales in Table 4 because the comparable rate in Scotland would lie somewhere below the waiting list rate of 222.2 per 10,000 population shown.

Table 6: Scottish residents on waiting lists for inpatient and day case treatment

	June 2003	September 2003	December 2003	March 2004	June 2004
<i>Number</i>					
On waiting list	112,182	110,661	112,023	110,277	112,375
of which: number waiting with an ASC(a)	28,349	27,828	28,947	28,949	30,228
Waiting over 6 months (b)	9,974	10,538	8,508	5,729	6,161
Waiting over 9 months (b)	1,177	897	0	1	0
Waiting over 12 months (b)	0	0	0	0	..
<i>Rate per 10,000 population</i>					
On waiting list	221.5	218.5	221.2	215.3	222.2
of which: number waiting with an ASC (a)	56.0	55.0	57.2	56.5	59.8
Waiting over 6 months (b)	19.6	20.7	16.7	11.3	12.2
Waiting over 9 months (b)	2.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Waiting over 12 months (b)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

(a) Not currently able to accept a date for admission for medical or social reasons

(b) Excludes those who are unable to accept treatment for medical or social reasons

Sources: National Assembly for Wales intranet and website
Statistical releases on NHS Waiting Times, SDR 78/2004 and earlier issues.
Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government
SDR 76/2004 Delayed Transfers of Care: September 2004
Department of Health website
Information and Statistics Division, NHS Scotland
Office for National Statistics

⁵ <http://assembly/presidingoffic/mrs/committeeresearchpapers/health/health-e.htm>

⁶ http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?p_service=Content.show&pContentID=670&p_applic=CCC&



Annex A: Waiting times for inpatients/day cases and outpatients: Statistical tables

Table A1: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by speciality as at 30 September 2004

Specialty	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and orthopaedics	24,432	12,192	4,005	8
General Surgery	14,922	5,604	1,871	634
Ear, Nose and Throat	8,024	3,624	1,093	261
Plastic surgery	1,598	679	323	74
Gynaecology	5,601	1,326	217	17
Urology	4,821	1,149	213	40
Neurosurgery	651	299	194	115
All other specialities	12,130	1,471	272	23
All specialities	72,179	26,344	8,188	1,172

(1) Numbers have been sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months

Table A2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by Trust as at 30 September 2004

NHS Trust	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	4,682	1,461	435	33
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	4,806	1,206	211	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	13,041	5,543	1,908	289
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	4,788	1,533	464	78
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	1,594	656	234	1
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	5,050	1,309	190	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	12,769	5,340	1,692	94
North East Wales NHS Trust	3,823	1,214	279	0
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	2,626	936	265	0
North West Wales NHS Trust	3,319	794	160	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	2,405	962	174	0
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	3,662	1,475	386	3
Powys Local Health Board	497	56	1	0
Swansea NHS Trust	9,116	3,859	1,789	674
Velindre NHS Trust	1	0	0	0
Total	72,179	26,344	8,188	1,172



Table A3: Welsh residents waiting for first outpatient appointment, by specialty as at 30 September 2004

Specialty	Number			
	Total	Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and orthopaedics	41,350	18,254	7,975	3,281
Ear, Nose and Throat	25,921	8,944	2,599	299
Plastic surgery	4,103	3,090	2,424	1,711
General Surgery	22,170	4,998	1,756	569
Dermatology	24,450	7,139	1,675	31
General Medicine	19,398	4,643	1,026	145
Other Neurology	4,743	2,064	903	307
Ophthalmology	21,960	5,534	678	36
Rheumatology	6,115	2,116	658	146
Neurology	2,274	1,277	597	261
Oral Surgery	10,606	3,732	578	96
Audiological Medicine	1,925	1,010	523	39
All other specialties	52,196	12,455	2,670	435
All specialties	237,211	75,256	24,062	7,356

Numbers have been sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months

Table A4: Welsh residents waiting for first outpatient appointment, by Trust as at 30 September 2004

NHS Trust	Number			
	Total	Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	7,473	2,173	646	221
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	20,830	4,686	665	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	48,203	19,585	7,473	2,749
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	15,014	5,098	1,969	819
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	4,438	1,128	133	3
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	14,276	2,536	383	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	45,217	14,044	3,208	0
North East Wales NHS Trust	11,106	2,364	523	0
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	9,161	2,228	442	0
North West Wales NHS Trust	8,585	1,249	123	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	6,723	1,698	317	11
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	10,731	3,138	668	95
Powys Local Health Board	3,470	301	0	0
Swansea NHS Trust	31,903	15,028	7,512	3,458
Velindre NHS Trust	81	0	0	0
Total	237,211	75,256	24,062	7,356



Annex B: Delayed transfers of care: Statistical tables

Table B1: Delayed transfers of care, by Region and NHS Trust, Sept 2003 - Sept 2004

	Sep 2003	Dec 2003	Mar 2004	Jun 2004	Sep 2004
Mid and West Wales	367	300	348	275	250
Bro Morgannwg	49	40	51	49	36
Carmarthenshire	65	62	100	59	24
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	24	13	18	12	17
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	65	71	63	45	69
Powys Healthcare	44	44	27	30	21
Swansea	120	70	89	80	83
North Wales	173	140	136	122	110
Conwy and Denbighshire	28	32	44	31	22
North East Wales	106	68	61	61	58
North West Wales	39	40	31	30	30
South East Wales	576	548	526	459	425
Cardiff and Vale	198	208	191	169	163
Gwent	244	246	232	190	178
North Glamorgan	59	41	48	49	30
Pontypridd and Rhondda	75	53	55	51	54
Velindre	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,116	988	1,010	856	785

Source: SDR 76/2004 Delayed Transfers of Care: September 2004 and earlier editions, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government

Table B2: Delayed transfers of care, by Region, NHS Trusts and reason for delay, September 2004

NHS Trust	Social Care reasons	Health Care reasons	Patient/Carer/family-related reasons	Other	Total	Percentage of all available NHS beds
Mid and West Wales	95	56	99	0	250	5.1
Bro Morgannwg	11	8	17	0	36	2.8
Carmarthenshire	13	0	11	0	24	3.4
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	4	0	13	0	17	7.6
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	29	12	28	0	69	11.5
Powys Healthcare	8	4	9	0	21	4.9
Swansea	30	32	21	0	83	5.0
North Wales	31	32	44	3	110	3.5
Conwy and Denbighshire	4	7	10	1	22	2.1
North East Wales	27	18	13	0	58	6.1
North West Wales	0	7	21	2	30	2.6
South East Wales	105	114	205	1	425	6.8
Cardiff and Vale	27	60	75	1	163	7.4
Gwent	71	32	75	0	178	7.6
North Glamorgan	2	8	20	0	30	4.2
Pontypridd and Rhondda	5	14	35	0	54	5.9
Velindre	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	231	202	348	4	785	5.5

Source: SDR 76/2004 Delayed Transfers of Care: September 2004 and earlier editions, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government



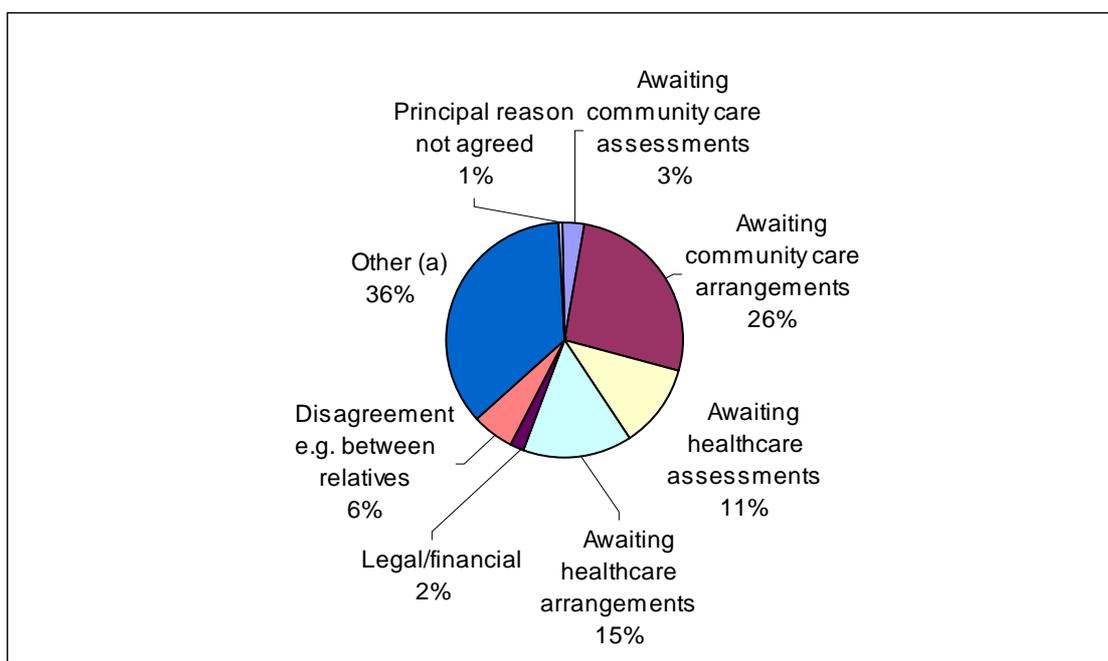
Table B3: Delayed transfers of care, by reason for delay, September 2004

Reason for delay	Number	Per cent
Social Care reasons	231	29.4
Awaiting community care assessments	23	2.9
Awaiting community care	208	26.5
Health Care reasons	202	25.7
Awaiting healthcare assessments	87	11.1
Awaiting healthcare arrangements	115	14.6
Patient/carer/family-related reasons	348	44.3
Legal/financial	17	2.2
Disagreement e.g. between relatives	46	5.9
Other (a)	285	36.3
Other		
Principal reason not agreed	4	0.5
Total	785	100.0

Source: NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) includes delays due to patients waiting for a place to become available in the care home of their choice.

Chart B1: Delayed transfers of care, by reason for delay, September 2004



(a) includes delays due to patients waiting for a place to become available in the care home of their choice.

Annex C: Notes on the publication of statistical information on waiting times

1. StatsWales

The Welsh Assembly Government's statistical database provides monthly updates of waiting times, and details of the latest monthly figures are available as time trends and by trust, local health board and specialty.⁷

The latest quarterly statistical release, SDR 78/2004, *NHS Hospital Waiting Times: at end September 2004*, was published on 27 October 2004.⁸

2. Relationships between waiting times and other statistics

◆ *Hospital Activity*

Waiting times information should not be interpreted in isolation from other information that may affect waiting lists such as changes in hospital activity or delayed transfers of care.

The 2004 edition of the annual *Health Statistics Wales* is now available electronically and in hardback copy from the Members' Library.⁹ This publication gives, among other statistics, morbidity, details of emergency admissions, numbers of beds and bed rates for the year 2002-2003. There are also some statistics for example, on registration of newly diagnosed cases of cancer by site, which are compared over time.

◆ *Delayed transfers of care*

Data relating to delayed transfers of care is collected by means of a monthly census. The approach taken is to try to record all cases where delays occur in the system; that is delays within the NHS (e.g. from acute to non-acute care) as well as delays between the NHS and other care settings.

The figures relate to:

- ◆ delays where responsibility lies with social care (e.g. social care assessment not completed or arrangements not in place)
- ◆ where responsibility lies with the health service, or
- ◆ where it is the responsibility of the patient, carer or family (e.g. family choosing a care home or patients waiting for a place to become available in a care home of their choice).

Recent delayed transfers of care data in Wales are not comparable with that in England as English figures do not generally include delays within the NHS. An improved collection system was introduced in Wales in April 2002 which enabled the identification of a wider range of reasons for delay, but this also means that the information available for the period after April 2002 is not directly comparable to that available previously.

⁷ <http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/eng/ReportFolders/Rfview/explorerp.asp>

⁸ <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/health/2004/sdr78-2004/sdr78-2004.htm>

⁹ Health Statistics Wales, 2004

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/health/2003/hsw2004/hsw2004-intro-e.htm>



3. Waiting times statistics for England and Scotland

Waiting times figures for England and Scotland are available but are not directly comparable since they are not as up to date as Wales and are collected and published in a different form. Where it is reasonable to compare the information from other countries rates per 10,000 of the population have been shown.

In England, the published outpatient waiting time statistics relate to only about 68 per cent of those referred and therefore do not cover all those actually waiting for a first outpatient appointment. This is because the figures published only relate to written referrals from general practitioners. (*See Section 6 for further clarification of statistics in England and Scotland.*)