

Publication Summary



Diagnostic Waiting Times

Monthly data to 30 September 2014

Publication date – 25 November 2014



About this Release

Diagnostic Waiting Times are an important component in the delivery of the 18 Weeks Referral to Treatment standard (a maximum whole journey waiting time of 18 weeks from general practitioner to treatment). This release details a summary of waiting times for total patients waiting, and those waiting over four and six weeks, for the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations from 30 September 2012 to 30 September 2014.

Key Points

On 31 March 2009, the Scottish Government introduced the waiting time standard that patients waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations would be waiting no longer than six weeks.

As at 30 September 2014:

- 56,252 patients in NHS Scotland were waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations. This is approximately 19% higher than 30 September 2013.
- 91.0% of patients waiting for a key diagnostic test had been waiting less than six weeks. When comparing to the position at 30 June 2014 and 30 September 2013, this has decreased from 91.9% and 97.4% respectively.
- The vast majority of the 5,035 patients waiting over six weeks in NHS Scotland were waiting to be seen in NHS Fife (28.4%), NHS Grampian (25.3%) and NHS Ayrshire & Arran (23.5%).

Background

Information on the following eight key diagnostic tests and investigations waiting times has been collected nationally since 2006:

Endoscopy

- Upper Endoscopy
- Lower Endoscopy (excluding Colonoscopy)
- Colonoscopy
- Cystoscopy

Radiology

- CT Scan
- MRI Scan
- Barium Studies
- Non-obstetric ultrasound

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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