About this Release
This release details a monthly summary of Diagnostic Waiting Times, which 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 referral 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 31 March 2013 to 31 March 2015.

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 31 March 2015:
- 60,098 patients in NHS Scotland were waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations. This is 10.9% higher than number of patients waiting at 31 March 2014.
- 91.2% of patients waiting for a key diagnostic test had been waiting less than six weeks. This compares to 95.4% at 31 March 2014 and 90.3% at 31 December 2014.
- The majority of the 5,314 patients waiting over six weeks in NHS Scotland were waiting to be seen in NHS Grampian (33.3%) and NHS Ayrshire & Arran (21.1%).
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

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Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

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