Cancelled Planned Operations

Month Ending 30 September 2018

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides a monthly update on the number of patients in NHSScotland who have had their planned hospital operation cancelled and the reason for this cancellation.

Main points

- The total number of planned operations across NHSScotland during September 2018 was 26,246, a decrease of 5.7% from 27,840 during September 2017.

- 2,259 operations (8.6% of all planned operations) were cancelled in September 2018, ranging from 4.6% to 12.8% across individual NHS Boards. This compares to 2,560 (9.2%) in September 2017.

- In September 2018, of all 26,246 planned operations: 871 (3.3%) were cancelled by the patient; 878 (3.3%) were cancelled by the hospital based on clinical reasons; 429 (1.6%) were cancelled by the hospital due to capacity or non-clinical reasons; 81 (0.3%) were cancelled due to other reasons.

- The peak in cancellations for non-clinical/capacity reasons in January 2018 (4.5%) was linked to increased emergency admissions causing additional demands for beds. The spikes in March 2018 for non-clinical/capacity reasons (4.1%) and other reasons (1.5%) were due to poor weather affecting patient and staff travel.
Background

These statistics are released monthly. Data include patients who have planned procedures cancelled the day before, or on the day of their planned operation.

Data for this publication are submitted from NHS Board theatre systems.

Contact

Amye Thomson          Adam Rennie
Senior Information Analyst  Information Analyst
0141 207 1894          0141 282 2064

General Enquiries
nss.isdwatingtimes@nhs.net

Further Information

A workbook containing data for Scotland, NHS Boards and hospitals is available.

Further information can be found on the waiting times pages of the ISD website. A metadata document has been produced for this publication.

The next release of this publication will be December 2018

NHS Performs

A selection of information from this publication is included in NHS Performs. NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.