IVF Waiting Times in NHSScotland
Quarter ending 30 September 2019
An Official Statistics publication for Scotland
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About this release
This release by Information Services Division contains the quarterly update on how long eligible patients waited from referral to screening appointment for in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment by the NHS in Scotland.

The standard is for 90% of eligible patients to be screened at an IVF Centre within 365 days of receipt of referral from a secondary care/acute consultant.

Main Points
During the quarter ending September 2019:

- The four IVF centres in Scotland screened 370 eligible patients, compared with 290 in the previous quarter.
- In all four centres, 100% of patients were screened for IVF treatment within 365 days, 75.1% of which were screened within 182 days.
- The 90% standard continues to be met since it was first measured in March 2015. The Edinburgh centre waiting times have been impacted temporarily by staff resource issues and steps are being taken to address this.

Percentage of eligible patients screened for IVF treatment during quarter ending 30 September 2019 by IVF Centre
Background

IVF is an effective method of assisted reproductive technology.

Each of the 14 territorial NHS Boards in Scotland commissions cycles of IVF from one of the four specialist tertiary referral Centres providing NHS treatment (Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow).

The Scottish Government requires NHSScotland to measure the length of time people wait for treatment. The target that 90% of eligible patients (which includes treatment for male infertility) will begin IVF treatment within 12 months by 31 March 2015 is measured by the percentage of patients who were screened at an IVF Centre within 12 months of receipt of referral from a secondary care/acute consultant. This target is now a Local Delivery Plan (LDP) standard.

Please see News and Updates section of our website for more details.

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Further Information

Find out more in the full report which includes background information, a glossary and metadata. The data from this publication are available to download from our web page.

For more information on IVF see the IVF section of our website. For related topics, please see the Waiting Times pages, where there is a video explaining how Hospital Waiting Times are calculated.

The next release of this publication will be 25th February 2020

ISD and Official Statistics

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