



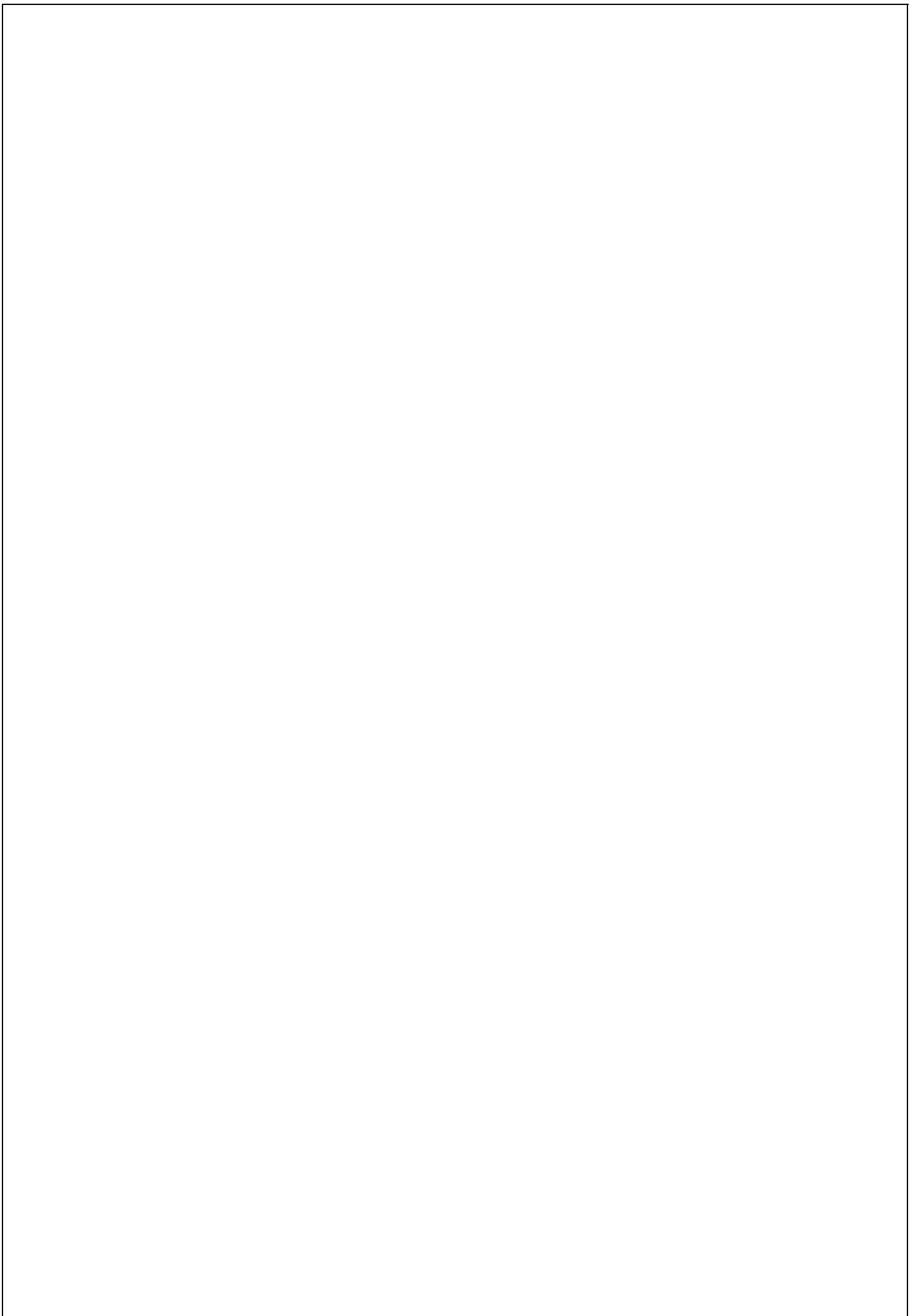
National Assembly for **Wales**
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol **Cymru**

NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, 30 June 2005

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 2005-06 Service and Financial Framework (SaFF) targets.

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

August 2005





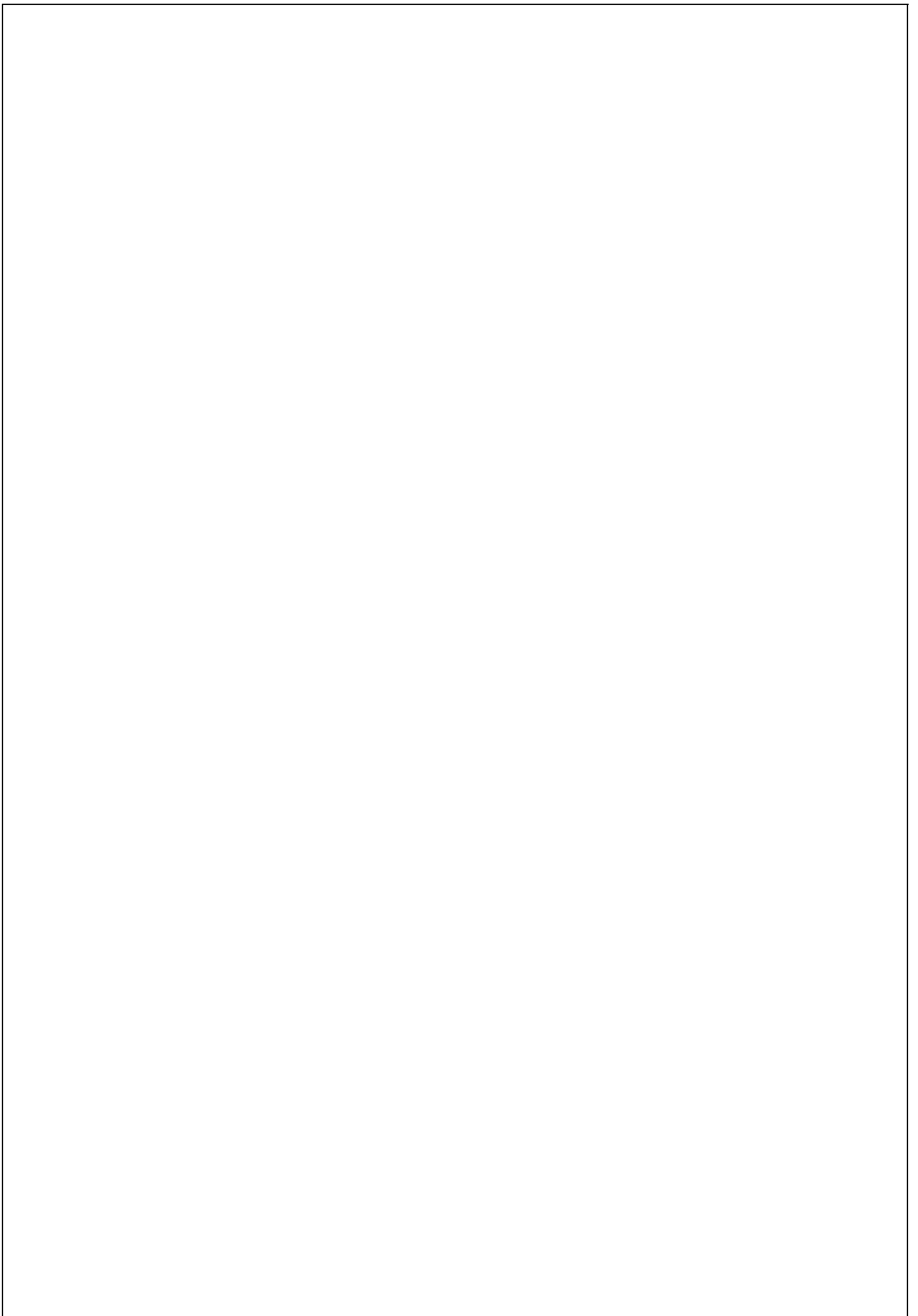
NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, June 2005

Carolyn Eason with Dan Stevenson

August 2005

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Members' Research Service: Research Paper
Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau: Papur Ymchwil



Cynulliad National
Cenedlaethol Assembly for
Cymru Wales



NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, June 2005

The following information for NHS waiting times is taken from the official statistics, published by the Statistical Directorate of the Welsh Assembly Government. Of all admissions to hospital more than half (58 per cent) are emergencies that are dealt with immediately. Just over a quarter of all admissions (28 per cent) are people who have been waiting on a waiting list. The remaining people have an admission date 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

The 2005-06 targets 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. These targets replace those for 2004-05 used in previous editions of this paper.

1.1 NHS Acute Hospitals

Unless otherwise stated the following waiting times' targets contained in Welsh Health Circular (2004) 083 *Annual priorities and planning guidance for the service and financial framework 2005-06*, set minimum standards to be achieved across Wales by 31 March 2006.¹ Two new waiting times' targets are now being included, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and Accident and Emergency (A & E). A third new target, Cardiac Vascularisation, combines the former targets for Cardiac Surgery and Angioplasty.

2005-06 SaFF hospital waiting times targets for assessment, treatment and elective procedures:

- ◆ All patients to be seen within 12 months for inpatient/day case treatment.^(a)
- ◆ All patients to be seen within 12 months for a first outpatient appointment.^(a)
- ◆ All cataract inpatient/day case treatment patients to be seen within 4 months.
- ◆ All patients to be seen within 4 months for cardiac revascularisation (angioplasty and surgery).
- ◆ All patients to be seen within 4 months for an angiogram.
- ◆ All Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patients to be seen within 6 months for routine assessment and intervention.^(b)
- ◆ 95% of all patients to spend less than 4 hours in Accident and Emergency (A&E) from arrival until admission, transfer or discharge. No-one should wait longer than 8 hours for admission, discharge or transfer.^(c)

^(a) Where there are currently no patients waiting over 12 months, Trusts should maintain or improve on the March 2005 position.

^(b) Target date: 31 March 2007. Interim targets based on current performance are due to be set by the Welsh Assembly Government by 1 September 2005.

1.2 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

The target for CAMHS would appear to be relevant to both inpatients and outpatients. However, there have been no children or adolescents waiting over six months for inpatient or day case treatment, so figures are only included for outpatients under Section 3 of this paper.

¹ Welsh Health Circular (2004) 083 *Annual priorities and planning guidance for the service and financial framework 2005-06*, available at http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2004/WHC_2004_083.pdf



1.3 Cardiac Revascularisation

From April 2005 a new waiting times target, Cardiac Revascularisation, replaces Cardiac Surgery and Angioplasty, and a new time series, starting from 30 April 2005, is being created to monitor the target.

1.4 Primary Care Targets

In 2004-2005 a target was set that 50 per cent of all practices should ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours. For 2005-06, the focus has shifted from waiting times to measuring quality and outcomes with 80 per cent of GP practices being expected to achieve 700 points in the General Medical Services Quality and Outcomes Framework. Therefore this section of the paper will be discontinued in the next Quarterly Waiting Times.

1.5 Cancer Targets (Standards)

The target date for NHS Trusts to comply with this SaFF target is 31 December 2006. However, as a milestone towards this target, the Welsh Assembly Government will be setting an interim target by September 2005.

2005-2006 SaFF Cancer Standards

- ◆ Newly diagnosed cancer patients that have been referred as USC (urgent suspected cancer) and confirmed as urgent by the specialist to start definitive treatment within 2 months from receipt of referral at the hospital.
- ◆ Newly diagnosed cancer patients not included as USC referrals to start definitive treatment within 1 month of diagnosis.

The 2005-06 cancer standards relate both to particular cancers and Specialist Palliative Care related to cancer services.

Cancers covered by the 2005-06 Standards

Breast; Colorectal; Lung; Gynaecological; Upper Gastrointestinal; Urological; Haematological; Head and Neck; Thyroid; Skin.

Explanatory notes of the cancer waiting times are set out in the Welsh Health Circular *Cancer Services in Wales – Publication of National Cancer Standards and the Implication for Commissioners and Providers, Through the Cancer Networks*.²

² Welsh Health Circular (2005) 051, *Cancer Services in Wales - Publication of National cancer Standards and the implication for Commissioners and Providers, through the Cancer Networks*, available at http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2005/WHC_2005_051%20ENGLISH.pdf.



2 Inpatient and Day Case Waiting Times

Target: All patients to be seen within 12 months for inpatient/day case treatment. To be sustained throughout 2005-2006.

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

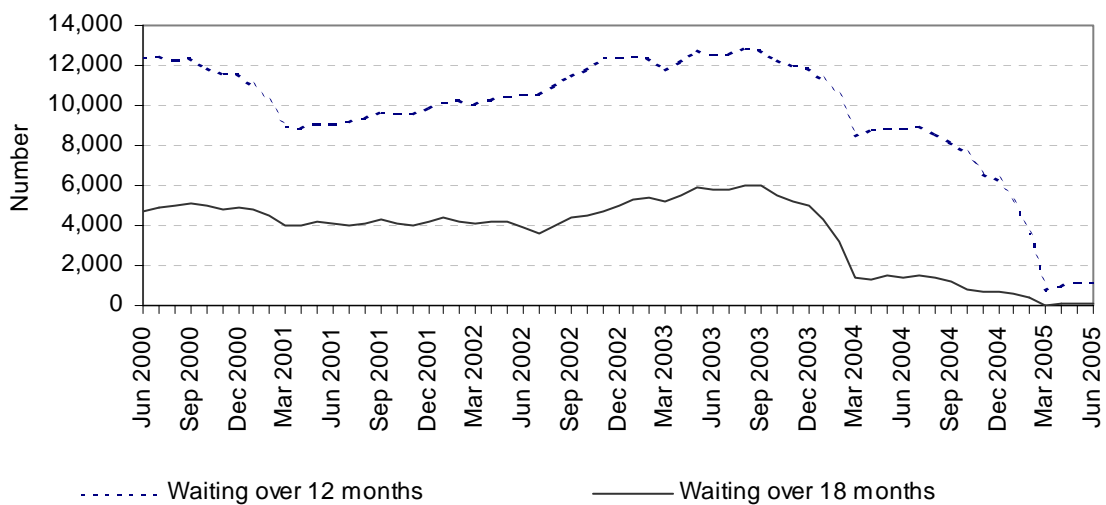
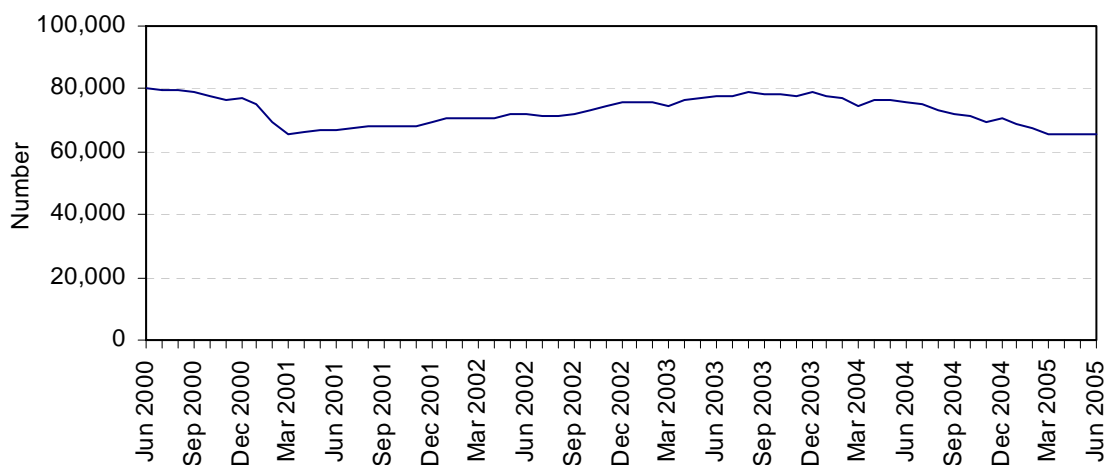


Chart 2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: total



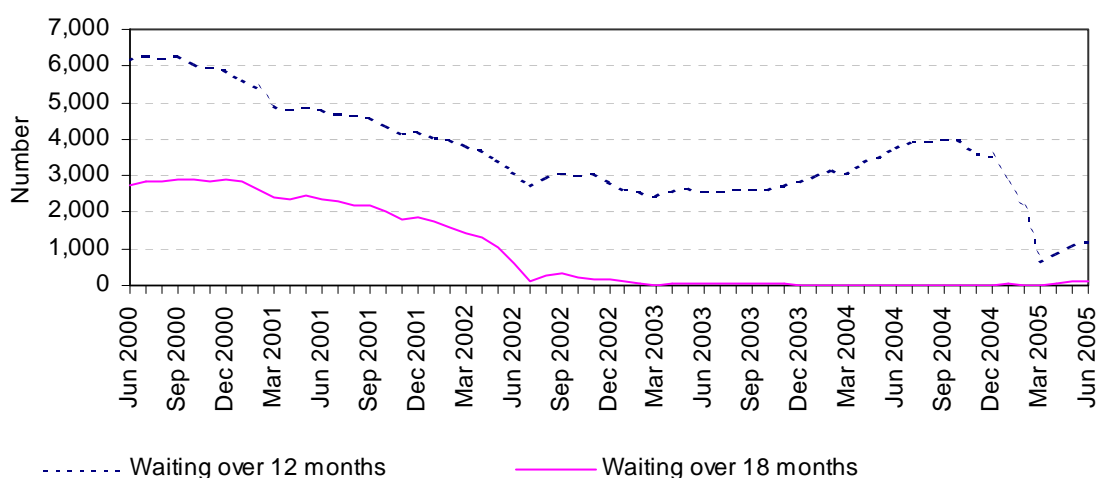
At the end of June 2005:



- ◆ 1,196 people were waiting over 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment, two per cent of the total number waiting (65,492), an increase of 1 per cent since March 2005.
- ◆ There were 123 people who had been waiting over 18 months for inpatient or day case treatment, an increase of 102 since March 2005.

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

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



At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ 119 of the 123 patients waiting over 18 months for admission were waiting for Trauma and Orthopaedics (T & O) treatment.
- ◆ Numbers of those waiting over 12 months for T & O treatment rose from 673 to 1,184 between March and June 2005, and the specialty accounts for almost all (99 per cent) of those waiting that length of time.

2.3 Inpatient or day case treatment, by specialty

Table A1 (see Annex A) shows the number of Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment at the end of June 2005 in the six specialties with the highest numbers waiting. The figures show that:

- ◆ The majority of specialties achieved the SaFF target of no patients waiting over 12 months. Those who had not were T & O (1,184), General Surgery (11), and Ophthalmology (1). For General Surgery, the number waiting for admission fell by 91 per cent since March 2005.
- ◆ 76 per cent of patients were treated within 6 months of being placed on the waiting list.
- ◆ Three specialties, T & O (119), General Surgery (3) and Ophthalmology (1) had people waiting over 18 months for treatment.



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.

Since June 2005:

- ◆ The number of NHS Trusts with patients waiting over 12 months has remained at five. While Carmarthenshire has achieved the target with no patients waiting over 12 months and Swansea has reduced its number to 25, numbers of those waiting over 12 months have risen in Cardiff and Vale (288 more), Pontypridd and Rhondda (109 more), Gwent Healthcare (98 more) and Powys LHB (23 more).
- ◆ The number of NHS Trusts with patients waiting over 18 months rose from 1 to 4. These Trusts were: Cardiff and Vale (89), Pontypridd and Rhondda (29), Gwent Healthcare and Swansea (2 each).



3 Outpatient Waiting Times

All patients to be seen within 12 months for a first outpatient appointment. To be sustained throughout 2005-2006.

3.1 Outpatients, by length of wait

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

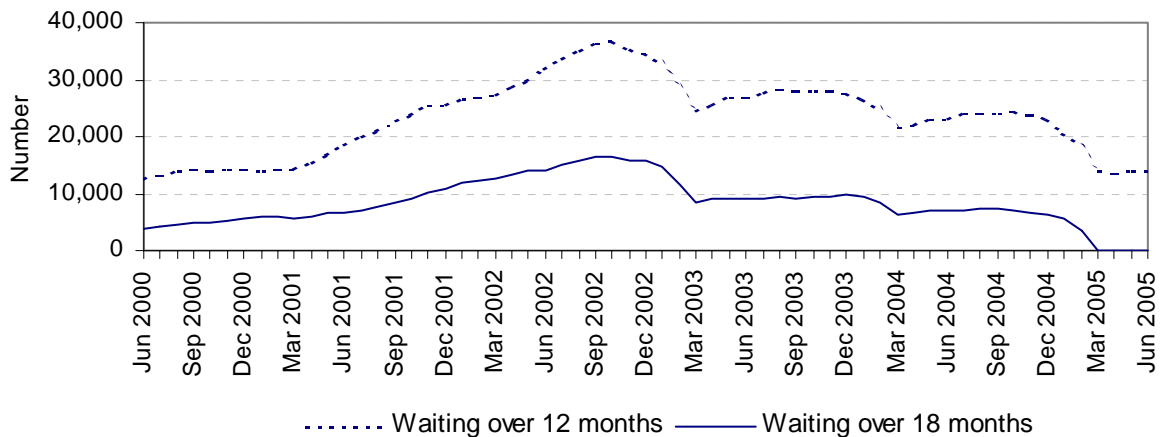
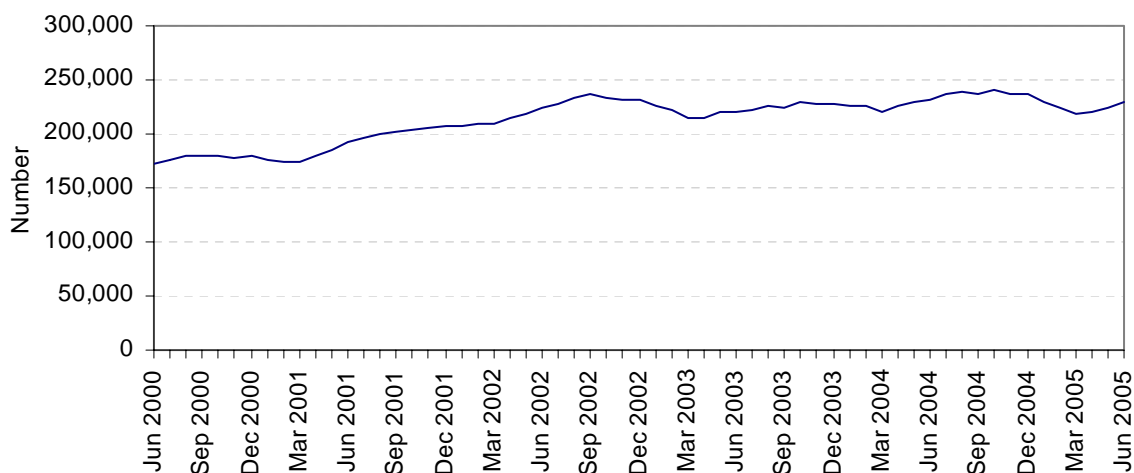


Chart 5: Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment: total



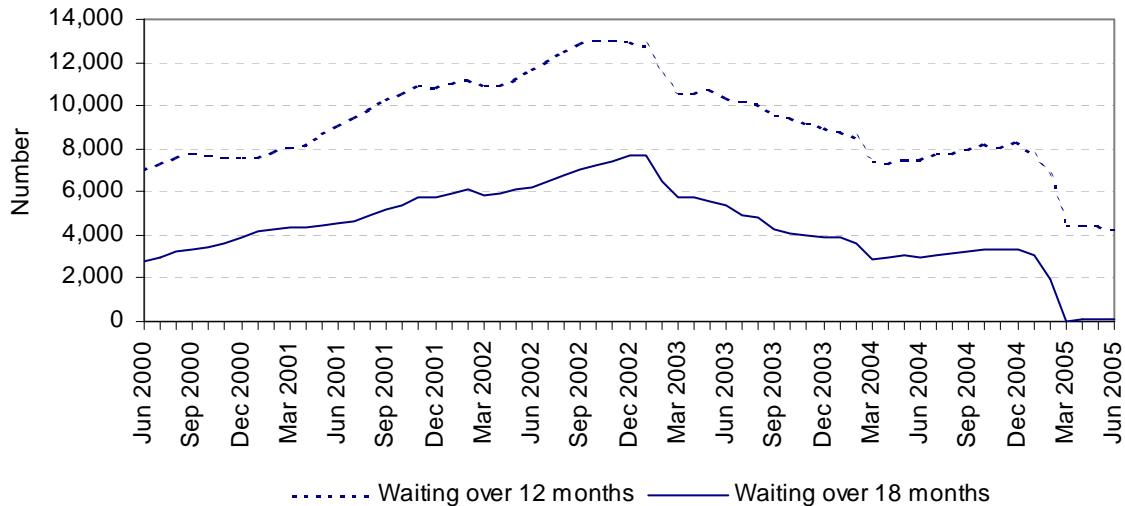
At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ 83 people had been waiting over 18 months for an outpatient appointment, an increase of 52 since the previous quarter.
- ◆ The number waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment also increased since March 2005 from 13,754 to 14,136. However, while the total number that were waiting rose during the quarter from 217,000 to 229,200, the number waiting over 12 months decreased slightly as a percentage of the total, from 6.3 per cent to 6.1 per cent.



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



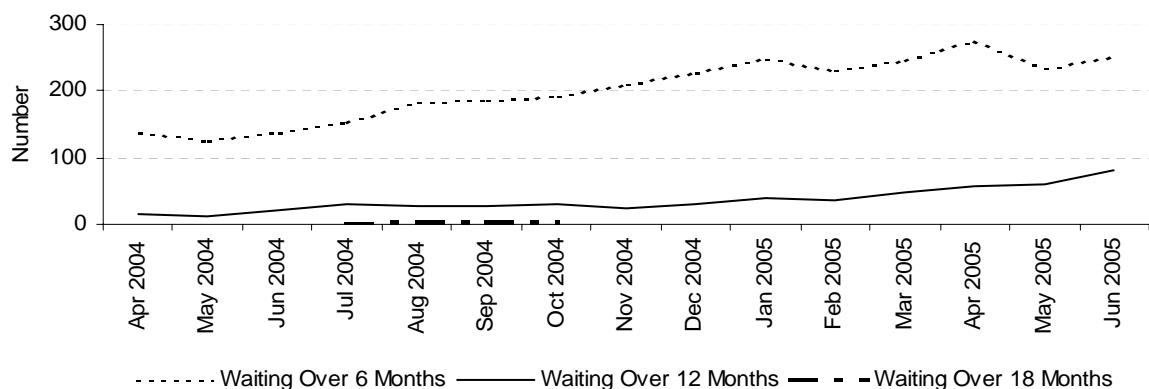
At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ 66 people were waiting over 18 months for a first outpatient appointment in T & O compared with 15 at the end of March 2005.
- ◆ 4,274 people were waiting over 12 months for a first outpatient appointment in T & O. While this number was 179 less than in March 2005, it was still around 11 per cent of all those waiting for their first appointment.
- ◆ Those waiting over 12 months for a first outpatient appointment in T & O accounted for 30 per cent of all those waiting over 12 months.

3.3 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Target: All Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patients to be seen within 6 months for routine assessment and intervention.

Chart 7: CAMHS. Welsh residents waiting over 6 and over 12 months for a routine assessment and intervention.





At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ There were 253 children and adolescents waiting over 6 months and 82 waiting over 12 months for a first outpatient appointment.
- ◆ 512 (43 per cent) of the 1,189 waiting for a first outpatient appointment were waiting over 3 months.

3.4 *First outpatient appointment, by specialty*

Table A3 (see Annex A) shows 15 specialties where the numbers of Welsh residents waiting over 12 months for a first outpatient appointment at the end of June 2005 exceeded 100. Figures are sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months.

- ◆ Less than half (7) of the 15 specialties had more than 500 people waiting over 12 months. Of these, 4 also had some patients waiting over 18 months.
- ◆ Four specialties, T & O, ENT, Dermatology and Ophthalmology had more than 1,000 people waiting over 12 months with all except T & O experiencing a rise in numbers since the last quarter. However, for all four, the total number waiting had also risen.

3.5 *First outpatient appointment, by NHS Trust*

Table A4 (see Annex A) shows 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 March and June 2005:

- ◆ The total number waiting rose in all but 3 NHS Trusts (Bro Morgannwg, Ceredigion and Mid Wales and Pontypridd and Rhondda).
- ◆ Four NHS Trusts had people waiting over 18 months, Cardiff and Vale (64), North East Wales (1), North Glamorgan (15) and Swansea (1).
- ◆ Seven NHS Trusts had more than 500 people waiting over 12 months for a first outpatient appointment, but only three of these (Cardiff and Vale, Gwent and Swansea) had more than 1,000 people waiting accounting for 66 per cent (9,301) of the total waiting over 12 months.

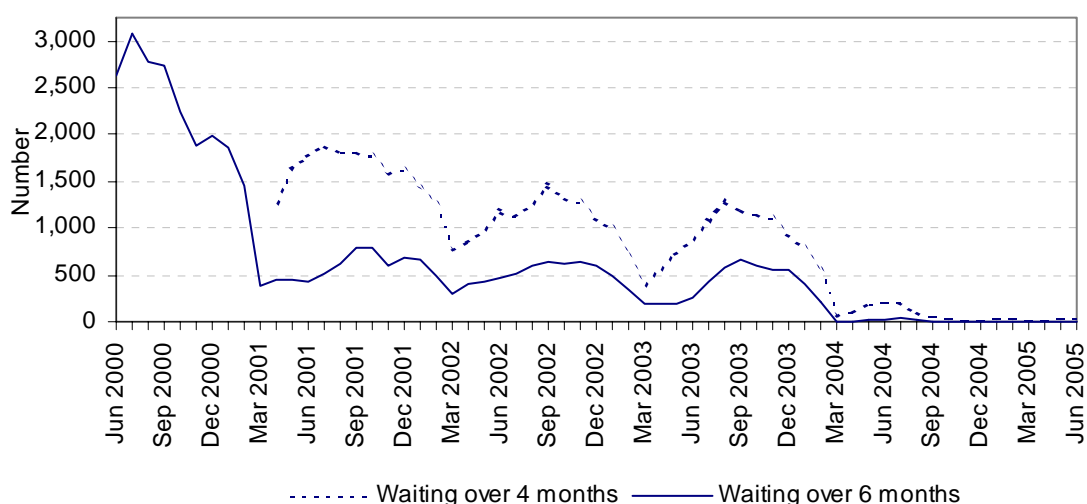


4 Specific Targets: Cataracts, Cardiac Revascularisation (formerly Angioplasty and Cardiac Surgery), Angiography, Cancer and Accident and Emergency (A & E)

4.1 Cataract Surgery

Target: All cataract inpatient/day case treatment patients to be seen within 4 months.

Chart 8: Cataract surgery. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 4 and over 6 months ^(a)



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

At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ 42 people had been waiting over 4 months for cataract surgery, 24 more than at the end of the previous quarter.
- ◆ One person had been waiting over 6 months.

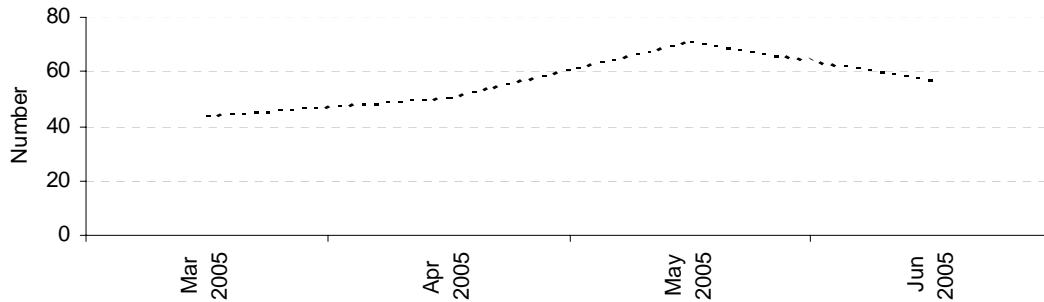
4.2 Cardiac Revascularisation ³

Target: All patients to be seen within 4 months.

³ Cardiac Revascularisation has been defined by the Welsh Assembly Government as including Cardiac, Cardio-thoracic and Paediatric Cardiac Surgery, and Angioplasty



Chart 8: Cardiac Revascularisation. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 6 months



March 2005: Cardiac Surgery and Angioplasty

- ◆ No people were waiting over 8 months for either cardiac surgery or angioplasty, and 33 people were waiting over 6 months for cardiac surgery. No figure was available for those waiting over 6 months for angioplasty.

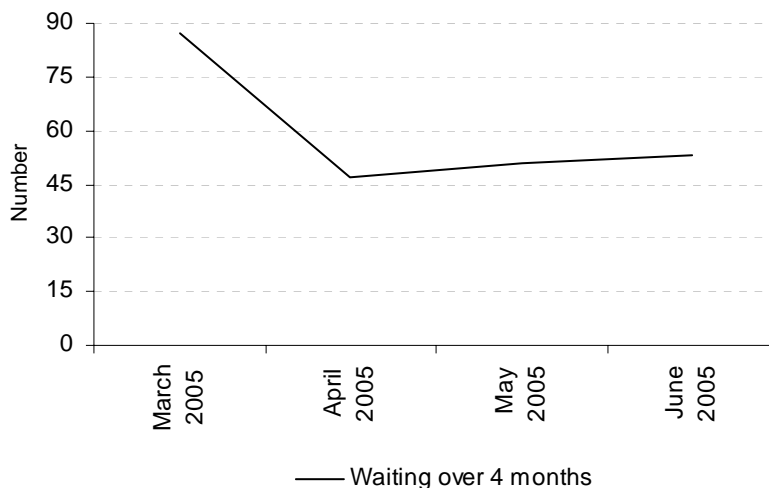
June 2005: Cardiac Revascularisation

- ◆ Of the 621 people on the waiting list, 2 were waiting over 8 months and 57 were waiting over 6 months for cardiac revascularisation.

4.3 Angiography

Target: All patients to be seen within 4 months for angiography

Angiography: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 4 months



At the end of June 2005:



- ◆ From a total of 896 people waiting for an angiogram, 53 were waiting over 4 months. This was 34 less than at the end of March 2005.
- ◆ Four people were waiting over 6 months compared with none at the end of the previous quarter.

4.4 Cancer

Targets:

- a) *Newly diagnosed cancer patients that have been referred as USC (urgent suspected cancer) and confirmed as urgent by the specialist to start definitive treatment within 2 months from receipt of referral at the hospital.*
- b) *Newly diagnosed cancer patients not included as USC referrals to start definitive treatment within 1 month of diagnosis.*

Since 1 April 2005, NHS Trusts have been collecting and making monthly returns for cancer waiting times to the Welsh Assembly Government. The first figures from these returns are due to be published in September and should be included in the next NHS Waiting Times paper.

4.5 Accident and Emergency (A & E) waiting times

Targets:

- a) *95 per cent of all patients to spend less than 4 hours in Accident and Emergency (A&E) from arrival until admission, transfer or discharge.*
- b) *No-one should wait longer than 8 hours for admission, discharge or transfer.*

The Welsh Assembly Government has provided monthly percentages for each A & E department, by NHS Trust and region (Table A5, Annex A) measured against the 95 per cent target of all patients spending less than 4 hours in A & E from arrival until resolution.

At the end of June 2005:

- ◆ The all-Wales average against the target was 89.4 per cent.
- ◆ Four of the 12 NHS Trusts had achieved the 95 per cent target, Pontypridd & Rhondda (97.0 per cent), Ceredigion & Mid Wales (96.2 per cent), Pembrokeshire & Derwen (95.8 per cent) and North East Wales (95.2 per cent).
- ◆ A further 3 were less than 5 per cent, and another 2, less than 10 per cent from target.
- ◆ Furthest from target was Swansea (81.6 per cent), followed by Cardiff and Vale (82.7 per cent) and Gwent Healthcare (84.7 per cent).
- ◆ All Trusts, with the exception of North West Wales, had improved their performance during the quarter. Gwent Healthcare and Swansea improved the most over the three months, by 3.6 per cent each.

Members' Research Service: Research Paper
Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau: Papur Ymchwil



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5 Second Offer Scheme

The figures in the tables that follow are for the current accounting year, 2005-06. Figures for 2004-05 are available from the March 2005 Quarterly Waiting Times paper.⁴ Tables 1 – 4 provide information on the numbers of patients who have:

- ◆ Been made an offer on the Scheme, and the breakdown of their responses
- ◆ Been treated in-house or by an alternative provider (this table includes patients from some Trusts with no patients waiting more than 18 months, and which have therefore used Second Offer Scheme money to treat patients in-house)
- ◆ Been referred to an alternative provider, and a breakdown of the providers used
- ◆ Given reasons for declining a second offer of treatment

Key figures from the period 1 April - 30 June 2005 are:

- ◆ Of the 2,746 patients who were made a second offer of treatment, 1,472 (54 per cent) have accepted. This represents an increase of 13 per cent over the previous year in patients prepared to accept a Second Offer.
- ◆ The highest uptake from patients of the offer was North East Wales NHS Trust (79 per cent) and the lowest, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust (24 per cent). Cardiff and Vale also had the highest level of those declining (63 per cent), an increase of 12 per cent over the last year.
- ◆ 1,927 patients have received treatment through Second Offer Scheme money, 1,481 (77 per cent) through in-house solutions, and 446 (23 per cent) from an alternative provider. The percentage of those treated through in-house solutions compared with those referred to an alternative provider has increased during the current year.
- ◆ Cardiff BUPA (177) and the Nuffield Hospital Group (105) continue to be the most often used alternative providers of treatment, followed by other BUPA hospitals in Wrexham and England (75) and the NHS hospital at Weston-super-Mare (69).
- ◆ So far this year, 222 (50 per cent) of the patients treated by an alternative provider were treated in England, an increase of 18 per cent over the previous year.
- ◆ The reasons why the majority (619) of patients declined a Second Offer are unknown. Of the rest, 244 have been recorded as refusing through patient choice.

⁴ NHS Waiting Times 05/022, published in May 2005: <http://assembly/presidingoffic/mrs/briefings/2005/index.htm>



Table 1: Patients to whom a second offer has been made, responses and referrals to an alternative provider, April 2005 to June 2005

NHS Trust	Patients to whom a 2 nd offer has been made ⁽¹⁾	Patients who have accepted an offer	Patients who have declined an offer	Patients who are undecided	Patients who were non-contactable	Patients accepted but ineligible	Patients referred to an alternative provider ⁽²⁾
Cardiff & Vale	743	180	466	7	67	23	279
Gwent	875	556	68	0	21	230	329
North East Wales	156	124	29	0	0	3	127
North West Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Pontypridd & Rhondda	414	313	85	43	-92 ⁽³⁾	65	164
Swansea	558	299	236	0	0	23	26
All Wales	2,746	1,472	884	50	-4	344	941

⁽¹⁾ Patients made a 2nd offer comprise: accepted + declined + undecided + non-contactable + ineligible

⁽²⁾ Patients referred to an alternative provider in any one period may include patients from previous periods who have, for example, been undecided.

This can be a negative number because the numbers who are non contactable is a transitional category and patients must be taken off this once they move into one of the other categories upon being contacted (i.e they are contacted in one month and reply back to the trust the following month). This is to avoid double counting.

Table 2: Patients treated through the Second Offer Scheme, April 2005 to June 2005

NHS Trust	Treated through in-house solutions	Treated by an alternative provider	Total
Bro Morgannwg	99	0	99
Cardiff & Vale	263	155	418
Ceredigion	117	0	117
Conwy & Denbighshire	250	0	250
Gwent	588	203	791
North East Wales	32	27	59
North West Wales	9	0	9
Pontypridd & Rhondda	72	61	133
Swansea	51	0	51
All Wales	1,481	446	1,927

This table includes patients from NHS Trusts where no second offers have been made because there has been no-one waiting more than 18 months. In these cases, Second Offer Scheme money has been used to provide in-house treatment towards meeting the new 12 month targets.



Table 3: Alternative providers and treatment undertaken, by NHS Trust, April to June 2005

NHS Trust	Cardiff & Vale	Cardiff Carmarthen	Ceredigion	Gwent	North East Wales	Pontypridd & Rhondda	Swansea	All Wales
Cardiff BUPA	84	0	0	46	0	47	0	177
Nuffield - Birmingham	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Nuffield - Bristol	1	0	0	24	0	0	0	25
Nuffield - Cheltenham	1	0	0	18	0	0	0	19
Nuffield - Hereford	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	39
Nuffield - Taunton	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	20
Weston super Mare	58	0	0	11	0	0	0	69
Worcester BUPA	7	0	0	20	0	0	0	27
Bristol BUPA	2	0	0	5	0	14	0	21
St Josephs Newport	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	20
Wrexham BUPA	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	27
Total	155	0	0	203	27	61	0	446

(1) 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.

Table 4: Reasons given for declining a second offer of treatment, by NHS Trust, April 2005 to June 2005

NHS Trust	Social reasons	Patient choice	Wishes to remain with Trust	Other	Reason unknown	Total
Cardiff & Vale	0	134	0	0	332	466
Gwent	8	59	0	1	0	68
North East Wales	0	27	2	0	0	29
Pontypridd & Rhondda	0	24	9	0	51	85
Swansea	0	0	19	0	236	236



All Wales	8	244	30	1	619	884
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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 Wales.⁵

In June 2005:

- ◆ The total number of patients experiencing a delayed transfer of care was 674. Of these 224 were delayed in mental health facilities and 450 were in other acute and community hospitals.
- ◆ The number of patients experiencing delays was 4 per cent less than in March 2005 and 21 per cent less than in June 2004.
- ◆ The beds occupied by people experiencing delays represented 4.8 per cent of all available beds; down from 4.9 per cent in March 2005.
- ◆ The category containing the highest percentage (47 per cent) of reasons for delay continues to be Patient/carer/family related reasons. This contrasts with Healthcare (29 per cent) and Social Care (24 per cent) reasons.

⁵ The Statistical Release SDR 69/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: June 2005
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/health/2005/hdw20050726-e.htm>

7 Waiting Times in England and Scotland

7.1 England

Tables 5 and 6 present figures for Welsh and English residents waiting for in-patient or day case treatment and a first outpatient appointment at the end of March 2005.

The latest information on waiting lists in England, relating to March 2005, can be accessed on the Department of Health website.⁶

Inpatient or day case waiting times

In Table 5, caution should be exercised when comparing information from two different collection systems. This is because definitions that may be applied broadly may not be interpreted and presented in exactly the same way.

Table 5: Residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: March 2005

	Wales		England	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population ^(a)	Number	Rate per 10,000 population ^(a)
Total	65,538	223.1	808,773	162.2
Waiting over 6 months	16,363	55.7	40,806	8.2
Waiting over 9 months	..	..	41	0.0
Waiting over 12 months	840	2.9	24	0.0
Waiting over 18 months	16	0.1	..	..

Sources: Department of Health, StatsWales, and Office for National Statistics (ONS) websites

(a) Rates are based on ONS latest Mid-Year Population estimates

At the end of March 2005:

- ◆ Both England and Wales experienced falls between the December and March quarters in the rates per 10,000 waiting for inpatient or day case treatment. In Wales, the number waiting over 6 months fell by 24.2 per 10,000 population.
- ◆ 840 people in Wales were recorded as having waited more than 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment compared to 24 in England.

First outpatient appointment waiting times

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:

- ◆ The total figures of those waiting in England are divided into two categories, i.e. those related to written referral requests from GPs and those from other sources. Department of Health figures suggest that GP written referrals represent about 67 per cent of all referrals.

⁶ <http://www.performance.doh.gov.uk/waitingtimes/index.htm>



- ◆ In England the numbers of people still waiting at a given time relate only to those for whom a written referral request has been made by a GP.
- ◆ The English length of wait is reported differently from Welsh lengths of wait, and the lengths reported in Table 6 are 13 weeks (3 months) and 21 weeks (approximately 5 months).
- ◆ 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.

Table 6 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 a first outpatient appointment at the end of March 2005.

Table 6: Residents waiting for first outpatient appointment: March 2005

	Wales		England	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population ^(a)	Number	Rate per 10,000 population ^(c)
Total	218,443	743.5	3,486,984 ^(b)	699.4
Waiting over 3 months	113,958	387.9	30,074 ^(c)	6.0
Waiting over 5 months	..	..	112 ^(c)	0.0
Waiting over 6 months	63,057	214.6	..	..

Sources: Department of Health, StatsWales, and Office for National Statistics (ONS) websites

(a) Rates are based on ONS latest Mid-Year Population estimates.

(b) Total figure for England includes both GP written referrals (2,321,021) and referrals from other sources (1,165,963).

(c) Figures for those waiting over 3 and over 5 months relate only to written referrals from GPs, which represent about 67% of all recorded referral requests.

7.2 Scotland

Inpatient and day case waiting times

Table 7 below presents waiting times for inpatient and day cases treatment in Scotland from March 2004 to March 2005 (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 5. 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 is available from the Information Services Division of NHS Scotland (ISD Scotland) website.⁷ Latest figures for Scotland are also available from ISD Scotland,⁸ and there is also an explanation of the categories of the Availability Status Code (ASC).⁹

⁷ http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/files/change_notification.pdf

⁸ http://www2.isdscotland.org/acute_activity/quarterly.asp

⁹ The criteria in which ASC are used are detailed at:

http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?pContentID=672&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&



Table 7: Scottish residents on waiting lists for inpatient and day case treatment

	March 2004	June 2004	September 2004	December 2004	March 2005
<i>Number</i>					
On waiting list	110,277	112,375	112,537	113,612	112,639
of which: number waiting with an ASC (a)	28,949	30,228	31,398	32,801	35,471
Waiting over 6 months (b)	5,729	6,161	7,512	5,976	1,600
Waiting over 9 months (b)	1	0	0	1	0
Waiting over 12 months (b)	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Rate per 10,000 population (c)</i>					
On waiting list	218.1	222.5	222.8	225.0	222.7
of which: number waiting with an ASC (a)	57.2	59.9	62.2	65.0	70.1
Waiting over 6 months (b)	11.3	12.2	14.9	11.8	3.2
Waiting over 9 months (b)	0.0	..	..	0.0	..
Waiting over 12 months (b)	..	..	..	..	..

Source: ISD Scotland

(a) Includes those not currently able to accept a date for admission for medical or social reasons

(b) Excludes those who have an ASC code

(c) Rates are based on latest ONS Mid Term population estimates.

Outpatient waiting times

Until March 2004, the numbers of people in Scotland waiting for a first outpatient appointment were not collected centrally. However, during 2004, the development of a monitoring and reporting system to enable performance to be measured against a new target of a maximum 6 month wait at 31 December 2005 for a new outpatient appointment means that some figures are now available. Table 8 contains figures for the total numbers of patients together with those waiting more than 6 months for a first outpatient appointment at the end of December 2004 and March 2005. The following should be noted:

- ◆ These figures are provisional only and may change as the monitoring system continues to develop.
- ◆ Figures are for outpatients waiting to be seen at a clinic, referred by a GP/GDP, for all specialties excluding Mental Health and obstetrics and therefore do not provide a comparison with England and Wales.



Table 8: Scottish residents on waiting lists for a first outpatient appointment¹⁰

	31 December 2004		31 March 2005	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population	Number	Rate per 10,000 population
Total	240,883	477.0	206,037	407.4
Waiting over 6 months	45,056	89.1	22,138	43.8

¹⁰http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/collect2.jsp?pContentID=1272&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&.



Annex A: Waiting times for inpatients/day cases, outpatients and accident and emergency (A & E): statistical tables

Table A1: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by specialty as at 30 June 2005

Specialty	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and Orthopaedic	22,187	8,007	1,184	119
General Surgery	12,088	2,671	11	3
Ear, Nose and Throat	6,885	1,771	0	0
Gynaecology	5,252	921	0	0
Ophthalmology	5,238	137	1	1
Urology	4,965	779	0	0
All other specialties	8,877	1,220	0	0
All specialties	65,492	15,506	1,196	123

Table A2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by Trust as at 30 June 2005

NHS Trust	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	4,297	888	8	1
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	4,732	840	0	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	12,243	3,920	801	89
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	4,453	1,052	0	0
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	1,349	297	0	0
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	4,643	1,070	0	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	10,569	2,973	228	2
North East Wales NHS Trust	3,489	644	0	0
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	2,124	503	0	0
North West Wales NHS Trust	3,139	266	0	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	2,008	605	0	0
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	3,748	939	111	29
Powys Local Health Board	600	175	23	0
Swansea NHS Trust	8,084	1,334	25	2
Velindre NHS Trust	14	0	0	0
Total	65,492	15,506	1,196	123



Table A3: Welsh residents waiting for first outpatient appointment, by specialty as at 30 June 2005

Specialty	Total	Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	<i>Number^(a)</i>
				Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and Orthopaedic	39,944	15,392	4,274	66
Dermatology	22,693	6,795	1,507	0
Ear, Nose and Throat	23,473	5,988	1,431	0
Ophthalmology	23,936	6,588	1,309	0
General Medicine	20,237	4,460	913	2
General Surgery	20,631	3,551	766	13
Rheumatology	5,849	1,797	611	2
Other Neurology	4,292	1,614	383	0
Oral Surgery	10,117	2,922	347	0
Gynaecology	10,539	1,391	281	0
Neurology	2,356	963	221	0
Urology	8,843	1,876	189	0
Audiological Medicine	1,529	617	158	0
Pain Management	1,781	627	155	0
Plastic Surgery	1,836	801	105	0
All other specialties	31,161	7,584	1,486	0
All specialties	229,217	62,966	14,136	83

^(a) 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 June 2005

NHS Trust	Total	Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	<i>Number</i>
				Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	7,404	1,621	472	2
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	19,868	4,749	909	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	45,590	16,445	4,007	64
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	14,543	3,780	923	0
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	3,895	607	3	0
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	13,347	1,796	343	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	45,533	14,552	3,331	0
North East Wales NHS Trust	12,163	2,663	429	1
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	9,363	2,176	374	15
North West Wales NHS Trust	7,427	588	10	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	8,298	2,556	658	0
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	12,557	3,189	645	0
Powys Local Health Board	3,231	298	69	0
Swansea NHS Trust	25,801	7,946	1,963	1
Velindre NHS Trust	197	0	0	0
Total	229,217	62,966	14,136	83



Table A5: NHS Trust performance against the 4 hour A&E wait target (95 per cent)

NHS Trust	A & E Hospital	April 2005 (%)	May 2005 (%)	June 2005 (%)
South East Region				
Cardiff & Vale	University Hospital of Wales (UHW)	82.3	82.1	82.7
	Royal Gwent	73.1	76.1	79.8
Gwent Healthcare	Nevill Hall	92.8	91.6	91.8
	Total Average	81.1	82.6	84.7
North Glamorgan	Prince Charles	90.4	92.0	93.6
Pontypridd & Rhondda	Royal Glamorgan	95.8	97.1	97.0
Mid and West Region				
Bro Morgannwg	Princess of Wales	88.9	90.9	89.7
	Prince Phillip	92.1	92.2	92.6
Carmarthenshire	West Wales	87.5	86.5	89.7
	Total Average	90.0	89.5	91.2
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	Bronglais	93.5	95.3	96.2
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	Withybush	95.1	95.5	95.8
	Morrison	76.6	79.7	81.4
Swansea	Singleton	80.7	79.8	82.1
	Total Average	78.0	79.8	81.6
North Wales Region				
Conwy and Denbigh	Glan Clwyd	88.9	91.4	92.1
North East Wales	Wrexham Maelor	93.5	95.2	95.2
North West Wales	Ysbyty Gwynedd	91.1	91.1	89.4
All Wales Average		87.4	88.5	89.4



Annex B: Delayed transfers of care: Statistical tables

Table B1: Delayed transfers of care, by Region and NHS Trust, June 2004 - June 2005

NHS Trust	Jun 2004	Sep 2004	Dec 2004	Mar 2005	Jun 2005
Mid and West Wales	275	250	205	186	185
Bro Morgannwg	49	36	40	37	37
Carmarthenshire	59	24	19	19	21
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	12	17	15	16	10
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	45	69	42	37	48
Powys Healthcare	30	21	16	11	12
Swansea	80	83	73	66	57
North Wales	122	110	124	147	116
Conwy and Denbighshire	31	22	20	28	27
North East Wales	61	58	69	77	46
North West Wales	30	30	35	42	43
South East Wales	459	425	409	367	373
Cardiff and Vale	169	163	200	184	207
Gwent	190	178	118	104	88
North Glamorgan	49	30	44	45	33
Pontypridd and Rhondda	51	54	46	33	40
Velindre	0	0	1	1	5
Total	856	785	738	700	674

Source: SDR 69/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: June 2005 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, June 2005

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						
Bro Morgannwg	7	9	21	0	37	2.9
Carmarthenshire	14	1	6	0	21	3
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	2	2	6	0	10	4.5
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	20	10	18	0	48	8.3
Powys Healthcare	3	4	5	0	12	2.9
Swansea	9	31	17	0	57	3.4
North Wales						
Conwy and Denbighshire	3	7	17	0	27	2.7
North East Wales	16	7	23	0	46	4.7
North West Wales	7	13	21	2	43	3.7
South East Wales						
Cardiff and Vale	41	68	97	1	207	9.3
Gwent	26	23	39	0	88	3.8
North Glamorgan	7	3	23	0	33	4.5
Pontypridd and Rhondda	6	12	20	2	40	4.5
Velindre	0	4	1	0	5	7.7
Total	161	194	314	5	674	4.8

Source: SDR 69/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: June 2005 and earlier editions, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government



Table B3: Delayed transfers of care, by reason for delay, June 2005(a)

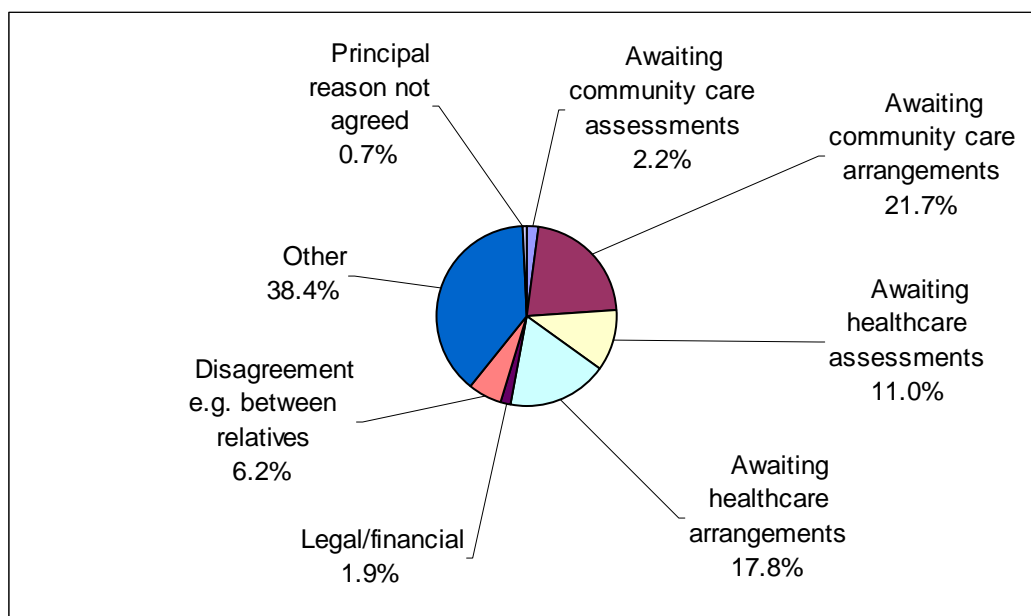
Reason for delay	Number	Per cent
Social Care reasons	161	23.9
Awaiting community care assessments	15	2.2
Awaiting community care arrangements	146	21.7
Health Care reasons	194	28.8
Awaiting healthcare assessments	74	11.0
Awaiting healthcare arrangements	120	17.8
Patient/carer/family-related reasons	314	46.6
Legal/financial	13	1.9
Disagreement e.g. between relatives	42	6.2
Other (b)	259	38.4
Other		
Principal reason not agreed	5	0.7
Total	674	100.0

Source: SDR 69/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: June 2005, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) aggregated figure for acute and mental health services

(b) 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, June 2005





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.¹¹

The latest quarterly statistical release, SDR 68/2005, *NHS Wales Waiting Times: at end June 2005*, was published on 27 July 2005.¹²

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.

StatsWales now has some activity figures on bed availability and occupancy rates, and for outpatient attendance and non-attendance by region, Trust and specialty for 2003-04. Other activity statistics for 2003-04, such as morbidity and details of emergency admissions, are in the 2005 edition of the annual *Health Statistics Wales*, which is available electronically and in hardback copy from the Members' Library.¹³ *Health Statistics Wales* also contains 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 and 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.

¹¹ <http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/ReportFolders.aspx>

¹² <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/health/2005/sdr68-2005/sdr68-2005.pdf>

¹³ Health Statistics Wales, 2005

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/health/2004/hsw2005/hsw2005-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. Population figures are based on the latest mid-year estimates available from the National Statistics website.¹⁴

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.*)

¹⁴ <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/nugget.asp?ID=6>