

0179FOI1920 Abortion waiting times

Produced by NHS Sheffield CCG Information Unit



Question

FOI Request -0179FOI1920

- * The average waiting time (in calendar days) for women who had an NHS-funded medical abortion in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 - from the date of their first referral appointment to (and including) the date of the procedure.
- * The average waiting time (in calendar days) for women who had an NHS-funded surgical abortion in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 - from the date of their first referral appointment to (and including) the date of the procedure.

Response

Official guidance

6.6 Abortions

6.6.1 There are restrictions on using and releasing abortion statistics and official statistics for abortions are published by the Department of Health. The numbers of abortions recorded in HES data are different to published official abortion statistics and hence, any release of HES abortion data should be done with extreme caution, following the disclosure guidance of abortion statistics and released with appropriate caveats. Guidance on the release of abortion statistics can be obtained by contacting the Department of Health Abortion Statistics team on 0207 972 5537 or emailing abortion.statistics@dh.gsi.gov.uk. Annual statistics for abortion can be found at www.gov.uk, search for 'abortion statistics'. Data for earlier years can be requested by email.

HES GUIDANCE

Wait times

Below is a summary of wait times from referral into hospital to first OP attendance, and from Referral to In-patient procedure. These wait times will not always properly differentiate between medical and surgical interventions. Please note that the CCG came into existence in 2013, therefore we can only provide data from 2013 onwards. Data prior to this may be available from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals.

	2013 (Apr- Dec)		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019 (to June)	
	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure	Gap to OP appt	Gap to Procedure
OP1_TEXT_LAST														
Surgical														
	Curettage of products of conception from uterus NEC	1.0	3.0											
	Dilation of cervix uteri and evacuation of products of conception from uterus NEC					23.0	25.0			16.0	71.0			
	Evacuation of products of conception from uterus NEC	15.0	19.5	14.0	58.0					8.0	14.0	5.0	7.0	8.0
	Introduction of intrauterine contraceptive device					7.0	33.0					3.0	27.0	
	Other specified other evacuation of contents of uterus	5.0	12.0	17.8	52.5			6.0	12.0	7.0	17.0			
	Vacuum aspiration of products of conception from uterus NEC	7.8	17.9	9.3	18.5	8.4	30.6	5.0	23.0	9.7	11.3			9.3
	Vacuum aspiration of products of conception from uterus using flexible cannula	-	21.0	5.0	19.8	11.2	19.2	4.0	8.0	7.0	13.0	4.4	8.0	6.5
	Vacuum aspiration of products of conception from uterus using rigid cannula	5.5	14.0	8.5	21.0	8.4	19.6	8.5	18.0	4.8	18.8	5.2	19.2	6.5
	Surgical Total	7.8	17.7	9.0	20.5	8.6	20.2	8.2	17.7	5.1	18.8	5.1	18.7	6.7
Medical														
	Insertion of abortifacient pessary NEC	6.0	12.0			10.0	14.0			8.0	11.0	12.0	19.5	7.0
	Insertion of prostaglandin pessary	9.2	14.9	9.6	15.9	10.1	17.2	7.7	17.4	6.6	13.3	5.6	12.5	6.5
	Medical Total	9.1	14.9	9.6	15.9	10.1	17.2	7.7	17.4	6.6	13.3	5.6	12.5	6.5
	Grand Total	8.7	15.8	9.4	17.6	9.6	18.2	7.8	17.5	6.1	15.1	5.5	14.1	6.6

note: This will only include data for Procedures carried out under NHS contracts. Some providers do not flow data to to feed this view (see notes from HES above)