



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

# **NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, December 2004**

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 2004-05 Service and Financial Frameworks (SaFFs) targets.

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

February 2005





# NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, December 2004

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February 2005

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## NHS Wales Hospital Waiting Times, December 2004

The following information on NHS waiting times is taken from the official statistics that are published by the Statistical Directorate of the National Assembly for Wales. Of all admissions to hospital more than half (58 per cent) are emergencies that are dealt with immediately. Just over a quarter of admissions (27 per cent) are people who have been waiting on a waiting list. The remaining people have a date of admission 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

Waiting times targets for 2004-05 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.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1.1 NHS Acute Hospitals

Unless otherwise stated the following waiting times' targets took effect from 1 April 2004.

**2004-2005 SAFF hospital waiting times targets for elective procedures:**

- ◆ No-one to wait more than 18 months for inpatient/day case treatment\*
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 18 months for a first outpatient appointment\*
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 4 months for cataract treatment
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine cardiac surgery by March 2005
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 6 months for an angiogram
- ◆ No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine angioplasty by March 2005

*\*Where no-one is waiting more than 18 months, or the maximum wait offered is shorter than 18 months, trusts should improve on the March 2004 position as agreed through the 2003-04 SAFF.*

The SAFF guidance indicates that the above targets set minimum standards to be achieved across Wales.

The Minister for Health and Social Services announced new waiting times targets for 2005-06 on 22 December 2004. These targets are for:

- ◆ All patients to be seen within 12 months for inpatient/daycase treatment or to have received a second offer of treatment. To be sustained throughout 2005-06.
- ◆ All patients to be seen within 12 months for a first outpatient appointment by 31 March 2006.

#### 1.2 Primary Care Targets

In 2003-2004, the SAFF target was to ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours by March 2004. In 2004-2005, this has been revised to indicate that 50 per cent of all practices should ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours.

<sup>1</sup> Welsh Health Circular (2003) 127 *Annual priorities and planning guidance for the service and financial framework 2004-2005* available at: <http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2003/whc-2003-127-e.pdf>



### *1.3 Cancer Targets – under review*

The previous cancer standard related to waiting times for patients referred as urgent by their GP. If on receipt, the specialist confirmed the referral as urgent, then the patient should be seen within 10 working days. The target has been under review and it is expected that revised standards will be published shortly.

## 2 Inpatient and day case waiting times

Target: No-one to wait more than 18 months for inpatient/day case treatment

### 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

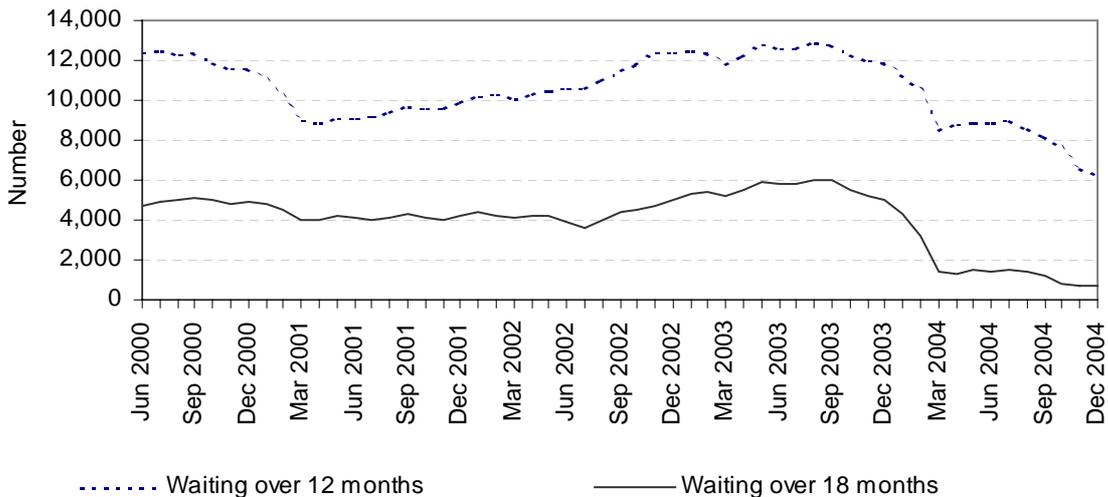
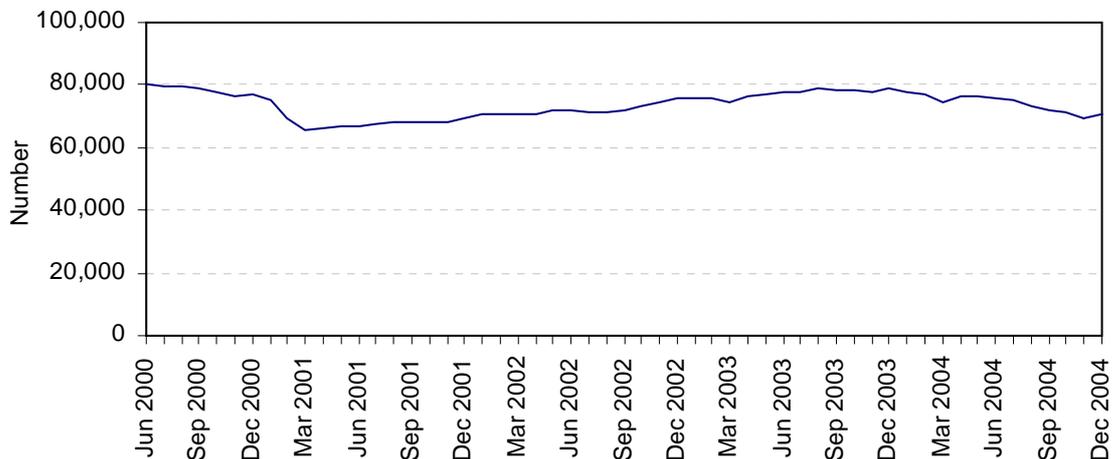


Chart 2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: total



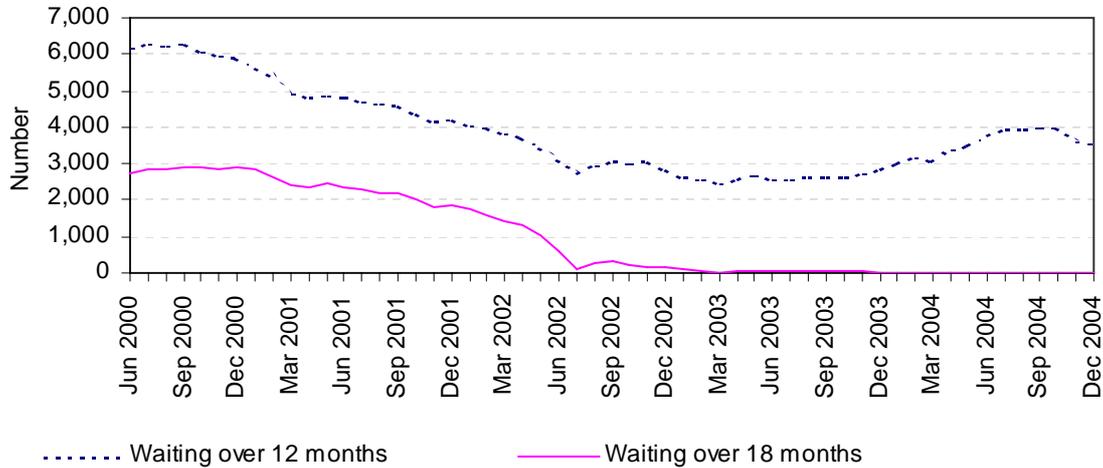
At the end of December 2004:

- ◆ There were 678 people who had been waiting more than 18 months for inpatient or day case treatment; down from 4,981 in December 2003, a fall of 86 per cent.
- ◆ There were 6,293 people who had been waiting more than 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment; 47 per cent fewer than in December 2003.
- ◆ There are now fewer people waiting over 12 months or over 18 months for treatment than at any time since June 2000.



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

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



- ◆ The trauma and orthopaedics specialty accounts for 56 per cent of all those waiting over 12 months for treatment.
- ◆ The number of people who had been waiting over 12 months for admission to trauma and orthopaedics rose by 24 per cent in the last year, reaching 3,529 by December 2004.
- ◆ The number who had been waiting over 18 months for admission to trauma and orthopaedics has been fewer than 15 since March 2004.

### **2.3 Inpatient or day case treatment, by specialty**

Table A1 (see Annex A) shows the numbers of Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment at the end of December 2004 in the seven specialties where there are more than 100 people waiting over 12 months. The figures are sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months.

- ◆ Trauma and orthopaedics (T & O), general surgery and ear, nose and throat (ENT) continue to have the highest numbers of patients waiting for treatment, accounting for nearly two thirds of all those waiting for treatment.
- ◆ These three specialties account for 70 per cent of those waiting over 18 months for treatment and for 86 per cent of those waiting over 12 months for treatment.

In the three months to December 2004:

- ◆ The number of people waiting over 18 months for admission in trauma and orthopaedics has remained small whilst in ENT, the number waiting over 18 months has fallen from 261 to 18 (by 93 per cent). In General Surgery the number waiting this long has fallen by 30 per cent.
- ◆ The number of people waiting over 12 months for admission for ENT fell by 58 per cent whilst the numbers waiting over 12 months for trauma and orthopaedics or general surgery fell by 12 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively.

### **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.

- ◆ Between September and December 2004 the numbers waiting for inpatient or day case treatment fell in most NHS Trusts. The exceptions were Conwy and Denbighshire, North East Wales, Pontypridd and Rhondda, Powys and Velindre Trusts.
- ◆ By December 2004 only 4 Welsh NHS Trusts had any patients who had been waiting over 18 months; Cardiff and Vale, Carmarthenshire, Pontypridd and Rhondda and Swansea. Each of these, except Pontypridd and Rhondda, had reduced the numbers waiting this long in the previous 3 months.
- ◆ Three trusts (Cardiff, Gwent Healthcare and Swansea) account for 64 per cent of all those waiting over 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment.
- ◆ All Trusts, except Conwy and Denbighshire and Pontypridd and Rhondda, had reduced the numbers waiting over 12 months for treatment between September and December 2004.

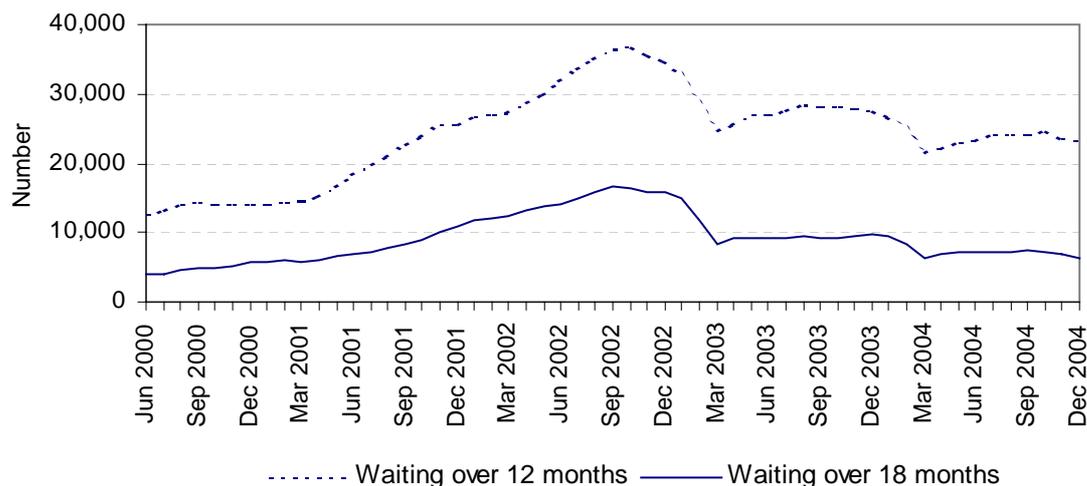


### 3 Outpatient waiting times

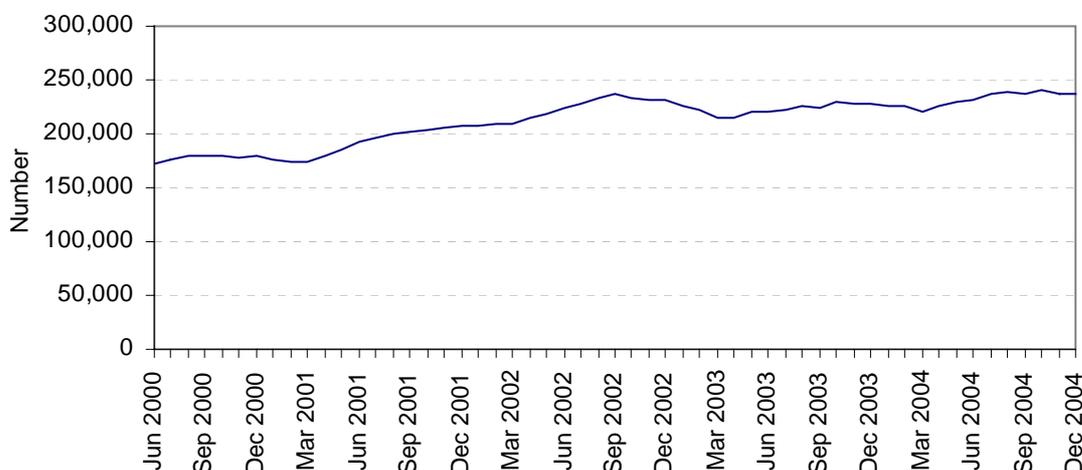
*Target: No-one to wait more than 18 months for a first outpatient appointment*

#### 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**



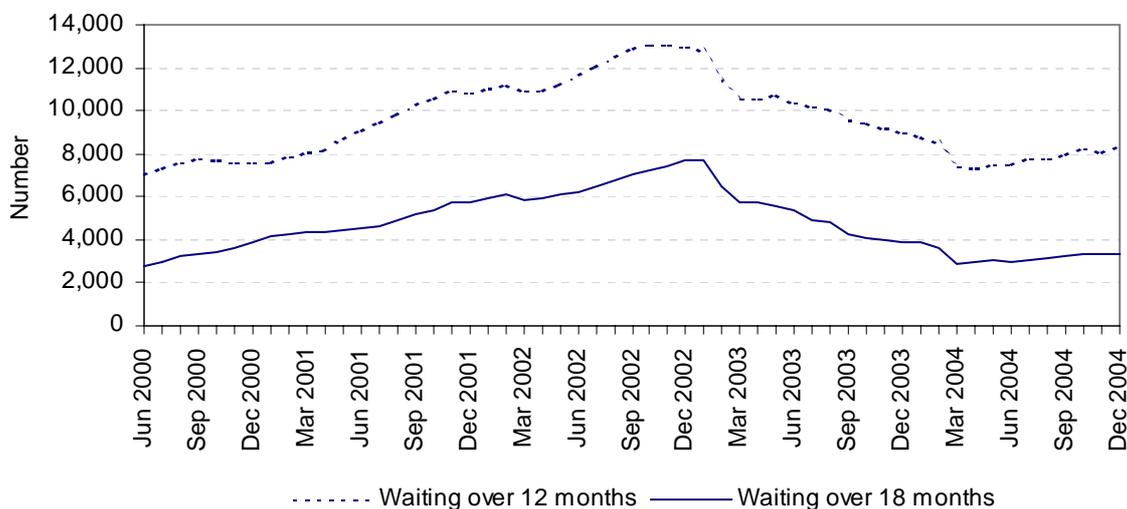
At the end of December 2004:

- ◆ 6,270 people had been waiting over 18 months for an outpatient appointment; 15 per cent, fewer than in September 2004 and 36 per cent fewer than in December 2003.
- ◆ Over 23,300 people had been waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment; 3 per cent, fewer than in September 2004, and 16 per cent fewer than in December 2003.
- ◆ The total waiting for first outpatient appointment was 237,600; similar to the level in September 2004 but 4 per cent higher than in December 2003.



### 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



- ◆ Trauma and orthopaedics (T & O) accounts for 54 per cent of all those waiting over 18 months for an outpatient attendance.
- ◆ 3,379 people had been waiting over 18 months for an appointment in T & O at the end of December 2004; 3 per cent more than in September 2004 but 14 per cent fewer than in December 2003.

### 3.3 First outpatient appointment, by speciality

Table A3 (see Annex A) shows the numbers of Welsh residents waiting for a first outpatient appointment, for the 11 specialties where there are more than 500 people waiting over 12 months. Figures are sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months.

- ◆ Three specialties (Trauma and orthopaedics, ENT surgery and Plastic surgery) account for over half (52 per cent) of those waiting over 12 months for an outpatient appointment. Of those specialties only trauma and orthopaedics showed an increase in the numbers waiting that long in the last quarter.
- ◆ Whilst the number waiting over 18 months for their first outpatient appointment fell in most specialties in the 3 months to December 2004, they rose in a number of specialties including Trauma and orthopaedics, General Medicine and Dermatology.

### 3.4 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 September and December 2004:

- ◆ The total number waiting for an outpatient appointment increased in all but 4 NHS Trusts (Carmarthen, Conwy and Dembighshire, North West Wales and Swansea).
- ◆ Six Welsh trusts continue to have people waiting over 18 months for an outpatient appointment.
- ◆ Cardiff and Vale and Swansea accounted for 86 per cent of all those waiting over 18 months for an appointment. There was a reduction in the number waiting that long in both these trusts.

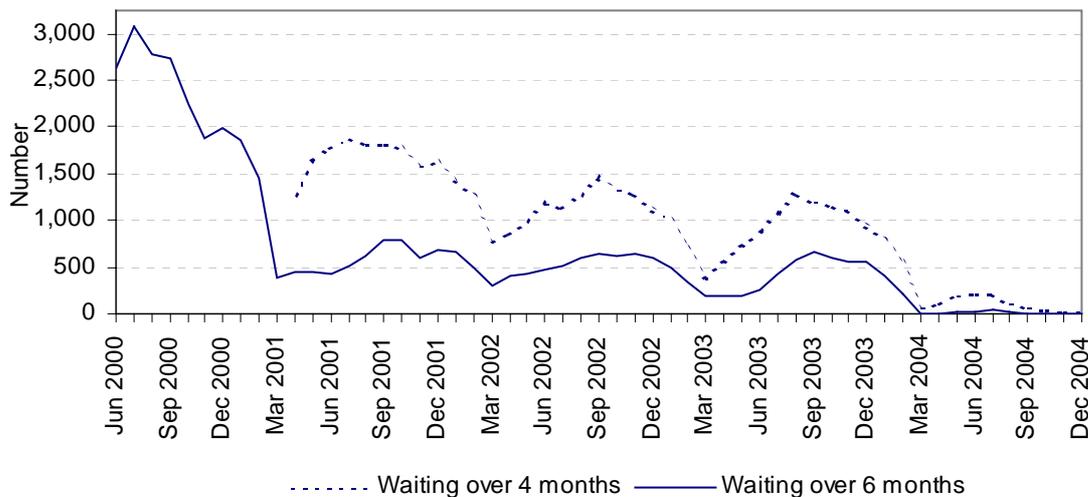


## 4 Specific Targets: Cataracts, Cardiac surgery, Angiograms, Angioplasty Primary Care and Cancer.

### 4.1 Cataract Surgery

Target: No-one to wait more than 4 months for cataract surgery

Chart 7: Cataract surgery. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 4<sup>(a)</sup> and over 6 months



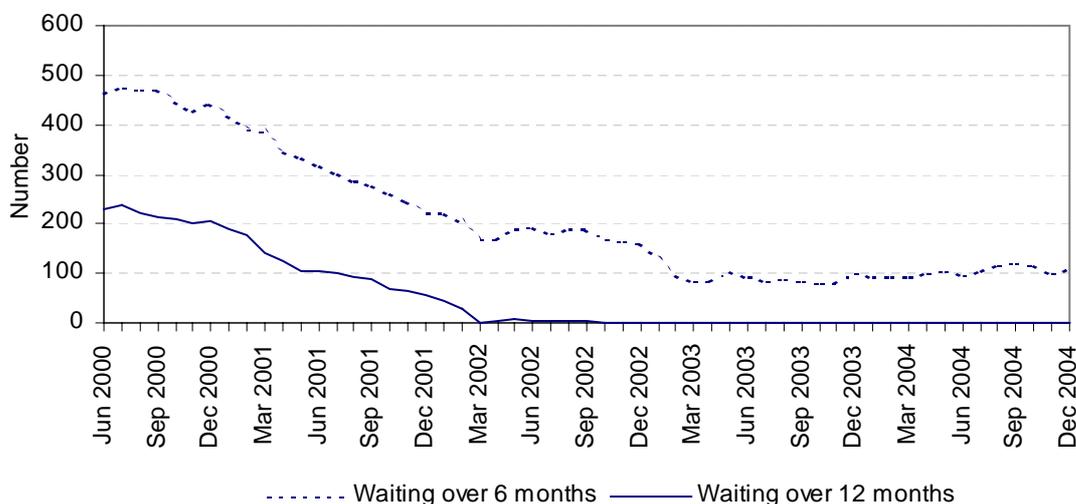
<sup>(a)</sup> Collection of information on patients waiting over 4 months only started from April 2001.

- ◆ 25 people had been waiting over 4 months for cataract surgery at the end of December 2004; down from 935 in December 2003.

### 4.2 Cardiac Surgery

Target: No-one to wait more than 8 months for cardiac surgery by March 2005

Chart 8: Cardiac surgery specialty<sup>(a)</sup>. Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, waiting over 6 and over 12 months



<sup>(a)</sup> Figures include cardio-thoracic and paediatric cardiac surgery as well as adult cardiac surgery

Figures for the number of patients waiting over 8 months for cardiac surgery have only been collated since June 2004.

At the end of December 2004:

- ◆ 37 people had been waiting more than 8 months for cardiac surgery, 14 (27 per cent) fewer than in September 2004.
- ◆ 109 people had been waiting more than 6 months for cardiac surgery, 13 (11 per cent) fewer than in September 2004 and 9 (9 per cent) more than in December 2003.

### **4.3 Angiograms**

*Target: No one to wait more than 6 months for an angiogram*

At the end of December 2004, there were no patients who had been waiting longer than 6 months for an angiogram.

### **4.4 Angioplasty**

*Target: No-one to wait more than 8 months for routine angioplasty*

At the end of December 2004, there were two people who had been waiting longer than 8 months for angioplasty.

### **4.5 Primary Care**

*Target: 50 per cent of all practices to ensure access to a member of the primary care team within 24 hours.*

At present data are not available from all GP practices in Wales to allow performance against this measure to be monitored at an all-Wales level.

### **4.6 Cancer**

*Target: Currently under review<sup>2</sup>. The previous cancer standard related to waiting times for patients referred as urgent by their GP. If on receipt, the specialist confirmed the referral as urgent, then the patient should be seen within 10 working days.*

Information on progress towards achieving waiting times standards for primary urgent referrals with suspected cancer is not published regularly.

In an answer to an Assembly Question (WAQ29101, 23 October 2003) asking how many patients wait more than the 10 working day standard the Minister for Health and Social Services gave the following response:

“The Welsh Cancer Standard relating to waiting times require patients to be referred urgently by their GP. On receipt of the referral at the hospital, it must be confirmed as urgent by the

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<sup>2</sup> Information on the consultation regarding new cancer standards can be found at:  
<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites/page.cfm?OrgID=322&PID=6967>.

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specialist with the patient being seen within 10 working days. All trusts are monitoring their compliance with the standard for 7 cancers, including breast cancer, and are working to improve their performance. The National Institute for Clinical Excellence will be providing guidance for referral for patients with suspected cancer in the near future.

Work is currently in hand to review the Cancer Standards and in the future more emphasis will be placed on waiting times from referral to start of treatment. Information on Trust performance against this revised waiting times standard is being taken forward.”

## **5 Second Offer Scheme**

The Second Offer Scheme Team has provided the Welsh Assembly Government with figures for the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 December 2004, and these are presented in Tables 1 – 4. These tables 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 Second Offer scheme to the end of September 2004:

- ◆ As a result of second offers of treatment being extended to those who would potentially wait 12 months, 14,971 patients have been made an offer, and 6,213 (42 per cent) have accepted.
- ◆ Of the 6,213 patients who have accepted an offer, 4,424 (71 per cent) have received treatment.
- ◆ Of those who have been treated, 2,778 (63 per cent) have been treated in-house, and the remaining 1,646 have been treated by an alternative provider.
- ◆ Of those who have declined an offer, more than half (57 per cent) are patients in Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust.
- ◆ The most often given reason for declining an offer (1,350) was that patients did not wish to transfer either their consultant or location. Of these, 1,330 were from Cardiff and Vale.
- ◆ Cardiff BUPA and St Joseph's, Newport were the two most often used alternative providers of treatment. Of the 1,646 patients treated by an alternative provider, 1,042 received their treatment from Cardiff BUPA and 192 from St. Joseph's, Newport.
- ◆ 348 patients (21 per cent) who received treatment from an alternative provider were treated in England.



**Table 1: Patients to whom a second offer has been made and responses, as at 31 December 2004**

NHS Trust	<i>number</i>					
	Patients to whom a 2nd offer has been made	Patients who have accepted an offer	Patients who have declined an offer	Patients who were undecided	Patients who were non contactable	Patients contacted who were ineligible
Cardiff & Vale	6,610	2,162	3,054	203	982	209
Carmarthenshire	290	61	91	116	15	7
Ceredigion	221	83	136	0	1	1
Gwent North East Wales	2,943	1,470	366	2	165	940
Pontypridd & Rhondda	309	255	25	0	29	0
Swansea <sup>(1)</sup>	862	484	125	11	229	13
	3,736	1,698	1,544	26	257	211
<b>All Wales</b>	<b>14,971</b>	<b>6,213</b>	<b>5,341</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>1,381</b>

**Table 2: Patients treated through the Second Offer Scheme, as at 31 December 2004**

NHS Trust	<i>Number</i>		
	Patients treated through the Second Offer Scheme		Total
	Treated through in-house solutions	Treated by an alternative provider	
Bro Morgannwg	266	0	<b>266</b>
Cardiff and Vale	533	974	<b>1,507</b>
Carmarthenshire	169	0	<b>169</b>
Ceredigion	152	54	<b>206</b>
Conwy and Denbighshire	57	0	<b>57</b>
Gwent North East Wales	917	320	<b>1,237</b>
North Glamorgan	49	35	<b>84</b>
North West Wales	52	0	<b>52</b>
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	62	0	<b>62</b>
Pontypridd and Rhondda	275	0	<b>275</b>
Powys	12	153	<b>165</b>
Swansea	17	0	<b>17</b>
	217	110	<b>327</b>
<b>All Wales</b>	<b>2,778</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>4,424</b>

*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.*

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**Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau: Papur Ymchwil**



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**Table 3: Alternative providers, referrals and treatment undertaken, as at 31 December 2004**

NHS Trust	Referred to an alternative provider	Alternative treatment providers										Total	
		Cardiff BUPA	Nuffield Hospital	Weston NHS Trust	Kidderminster Treatment Centre	Worcester BUPA	Bristol BUPA	St Josephe's (Newport)	Wrexham BUPA	Werndale (Carmarthen)	Brecon		
Cardiff & Vale	486	769	80	93	30	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>974</b>
Carmarthen	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Ceredigion	5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	<b>54</b>
Gwent	290	65	31	0	16	0	16	192	0	0	0	0	<b>320</b>
North East Wales	276	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	<b>35</b>
Pontypridd & Rhondda	163	118	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	<b>153</b>
Swansea	4	40	35	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	25	<b>110</b>
<b>All Wales</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,646</b>

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, as at 31 December 2004**

Reasons given for declining a second offer	NHS Trust							Total
	Cardiff and Vale	Carmarthen	Ceredigion	Gwent	North East Wales	Pontypridd & Rhondda	Swansea	
No longer requires treatment	201	8	0	25	0	28	136	<b>398</b>
Transport arrangements	0	39	9	0	0	12	24	<b>84</b>
Social reasons	28	12	80	199	0	0	290	<b>609</b>
Receiving provider not known	445	0	38	0	6	0	0	<b>489</b>
Patient choice	1	32	0	142	0	0	0	<b>175</b>
Prefer to remain with consultant	36	0	0	0	0	62	19	<b>117</b>
Does not wish to travel	0	0	0	0	0	14	321	<b>335</b>
Deferred/removed from waiting list	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>40</b>
Will not transfer consultant/location	1,330	0	1	0	19	0	0	<b>1,350</b>
Too old/not well	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	<b>43</b>
Various	905	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>905</b>
Reason unknown (a)	68	0	8	0	0	9	711	<b>796</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,054</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>5,341</b>

(a) Reasons for 683 of the Swansea patients were not collected during November and December 2004

## 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.<sup>3</sup>

In December 2004:

- ◆ the total number of patients experiencing a delayed transfer of care was 738. Of these 221 were delayed in mental health facilities and 517 were in other acute and community hospitals.
- ◆ The number of patients experiencing delays was 6 per cent less than in September 2004 and 25 per cent less than in December 2003.
- ◆ The beds occupied by people experiencing delays represented 5.2 per cent of all available beds; down from 5.5 per cent in September 2003.
- ◆ Delays for social care reasons accounted for 24 per cent of all delays, compared to 30 per cent for healthcare reasons and 45 per cent for other reasons. The reduction in the previous 12 months has been greatest in delays for social care reasons which fell from 36 per cent of all delays in December 2003 to 24 per cent of all delays in December 2004.

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<sup>3</sup> The Statistical Release SDR 7/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: December 2004  
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/health/2005/hdw20050125-e.htm>

## 7 Waiting times in England and Scotland

### 7.1 England

Tables 5 and 6 present figures for Welsh residents and English residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment and a first outpatient appointment at the end of September 2004.

The latest information on waiting lists in England, relating to September 2004, can be accessed on the Department of Health website.<sup>4</sup>

#### *Waiting for inpatient or day case treatment*

In Table 5, caution should be exercised in comparing information from two different collection systems as definitions may not be interpreted in exactly the same way, even though the same definitions are broadly applied.

**Table 5: Residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment: September 2004**

	Wales		England	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population	Number	Rate per 10,000 population
Total	72,179	245.7	842,963	169.1
Waiting over 6 months	26,344	89.7	75,069	15.1
Waiting over 9 months	..	..	122	0.0
Waiting over 12 months	8,188	27.9	19	0.0
Waiting over 18 months	1,172	4.0	..	..

Source: Department of Health website, StatsWales website

At the end of September 2004:

- ◆ 8,188 people in Wales were recorded as having been waiting more than 12 months for inpatient or day case treatment compared to 19 in England.
- ◆ As a rate per 10,000 head of population, the number of people waiting for inpatient or day case treatment in Wales was higher than in England.

#### *Waiting for first outpatient appointment*

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:

- ◆ English figures only relate to written referral requests from GPs, which according to the Department of Health, represent about 67 per cent of all referrals.
- ◆ In England the number of people still waiting at a given time who had been waiting more than 13 weeks (3 months) and 21 weeks (approximately 5 months) are collected. 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.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.performance.doh.gov.uk/waitingtimes/index.htm>



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 first outpatient appointment at the end of September 2004.

**Table 6: Residents waiting for first outpatient appointment: September 2004**

	Wales		England (a)	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population	Number	Rate per 10,000 population
Total	237,175	807.3	..	..
Waiting over 3 months	130,287	443.5	77,494	15.5
Waiting over 5 months	..	..	77	0.0
Waiting over 6 months	75,236	256.1	..	..

Source: Department of Health website, StatsWales website

(a) English figures only relate to written referrals from GPs, which represent about 67% of all recorded referral requests.

## 7.2 Scotland

In Scotland the numbers of people waiting for an outpatient appointment are not collected and published centrally. Table 7 below presents waiting times for inpatient and day cases treatment in Scotland from September 2003 to September 2004 (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 was provided in an earlier Members' Research Service quarterly bulletin.<sup>5</sup> Latest figures for Scotland are available from the website of the Information Services Division of NHS Scotland (ISD Scotland), which also includes an explanation of the categories of the Availability Status Code (ASC) used in Table 7 below.<sup>6</sup>

It would not be valid to compare the rates for Scotland in Table 7 with those for England and Wales in Table 5 because the comparable rate in Scotland would lie somewhere below the waiting list rate of 222.5 per 10,000 population shown for September 2004.

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

	September 2003	December 2003	March 2004	June 2004	September 2004
<i>Number</i>					
On waiting list	110,661	112,023	110,277	112,375	112,537
of which: number waiting with an ASC (a)	27,828	28,947	28,949	30,228	31,398
Waiting over 6 months (b)	10,538	8,508	5,729	6,161	7,512
Waiting over 9 months (b)	897	0	1	0	0
Waiting over 12 months (b)	0	0	0	..	..
<i>Rate per 10,000 population</i>					
On waiting list	218.5	221.2	215.3	222.2	222.5
of which: number waiting with an ASC (a)	55.0	57.2	56.5	59.8	62.1
Waiting over 6 months (b)	20.7	16.7	11.3	12.2	14.9
Waiting over 9 months (b)	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Waiting over 12 months (b)	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..

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

(b) Excludes those who are unable to accept treatment for medical or social reasons

Source: ISD Scotland

**Sources:** National Assembly for Wales intranet and website  
Statistical releases on NHS Waiting Times, SDR 8/2005 and earlier issues.  
Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government  
SDR 7/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: December 2004  
Department of Health website  
Information and Statistics Division, NHS Scotland  
Office for National Statistics

<sup>5</sup> <http://assembly/presidingoffic/mrs/committeeresearchpapers/health/health-e.htm>

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?p\\_service=Content.show&pContentID=670&p\\_applic=CCC&](http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?p_service=Content.show&pContentID=670&p_applic=CCC&)



## Annex A: Waiting times for inpatients/day cases and outpatients: Statistical tables

**Table A1: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by specialty as at 30 December 2004**

Specialty	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and Orthopaedic	23,967	11,523	3,529	9
General Surgery	14,315	4,775	1,437	446
Ear, Nose and Throat	7,570	2,787	465	18
Plastic Surgery	1,498	495	211	69
Gynaecology	5,766	1,214	170	15
Neurosurgery	640	273	156	101
Urology	4,772	990	152	15
All other specialties	12,118	1,285	173	5
All specialties	70,646	23,342	6,293	678

(1) Numbers have been sorted in descending order of those waiting over 12 months

**Table A2: Welsh residents waiting for inpatient or day case treatment, by Trust as at 30 December 2004**

NHS Trust	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	4,883	1,336	392	35
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	4,400	1,045	111	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	12,538	5,214	1,609	70
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	4,646	1,417	369	59
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	1,554	544	177	0
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	5,193	1,346	222	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	12,202	4,497	1,188	0
North East Wales NHS Trust	3,842	1,183	213	0
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	2,493	802	198	0
North West Wales NHS Trust	3,253	620	45	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	2,205	832	108	0
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	4,345	1,614	449	19
Powys Local Health Board	527	62	0	0
Swansea NHS Trust	8,551	2,830	1,212	495
Velindre NHS Trust	14	0	0	0
Total	70,646	23,342	6,293	678



**Table A3: Welsh residents waiting for first outpatient appointment, by specialty as at 30 December 2004**

Specialty	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Trauma and Orthopaedic	42,508	19,647	8,305	3,379
Ear, Nose and Throat	25,170	8,366	2,233	48
Plastic Surgery	3,079	2,470	1,800	1,315
Dermatology	23,764	7,781	1,636	39
General Surgery	21,762	5,108	1,635	568
General Medicine	19,312	4,773	1,257	173
Other Neurology	4,719	2,063	937	335
Ophthalmology	22,904	6,192	913	20
Rheumatology	6,242	2,427	711	62
Oral Surgery	10,493	3,540	582	78
Audiological Medicine	1,936	934	501	34
All other specialties	55,686	13,614	2,823	219
All specialties	237,575	76,915	23,333	6,270

*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 December 2004**

NHS Trust	Total	Number		
		Waiting over 6 months	Waiting over 12 months	Waiting over 18 months
Aggregate of non-Welsh NHS Trusts	7,000	2,118	1,073	252
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	21,064	5,799	1,170	0
Cardiff and Vale Trust	48,764	19,793	7,130	2,558
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust	14,596	4,647	1,585	559
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust	4,481	1,064	182	0
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust	13,759	2,374	277	0
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust	45,468	16,133	3,606	0
North East Wales NHS Trust	11,139	2,573	641	10
North Glamorgan NHS Trust	9,259	2,226	428	0
North West Wales NHS Trust	8,104	1,229	80	0
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust	7,085	1,928	380	32
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	13,714	3,406	568	50
Powys Local Health Board	3,567	266	12	0
Swansea NHS Trust	29,467	13,359	6,201	2,809
Velindre NHS Trust	108	0	0	0
Total	237,575	76,915	23,333	6,270



## Annex B: Delayed transfers of care: Statistical tables

Table B1: Delayed transfers of care, by Region and NHS Trust, Dec 2003 - Dec 2004

	Dec 2003	Mar 2004	Jun 2004	Sep 2004	Dec 2004
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>205</b>
Bro Morgannwg	40	51	49	36	40
Carmarthenshire	62	100	59	24	19
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	13	18	12	17	15
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	71	63	45	69	42
Powys Healthcare	44	27	30	21	16
Swansea	70	89	80	83	73
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>124</b>
Conwy and Denbighshire	32	44	31	22	20
North East Wales	68	61	61	58	69
North West Wales	40	31	30	30	35
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>409</b>
Cardiff and Vale	208	191	169	163	200
Gwent	246	232	190	178	118
North Glamorgan	41	48	49	30	44
Pontypridd and Rhondda	53	55	51	54	46
Velindre	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>738</b>

Source: SDR 7/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: December 2004 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, December 2004

NHS Trust	Social Care reasons	Health Care reasons	Patient/Carer/Family-related reasons	Other	Total	Percentage of all available NHS beds
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Bro Morgannwg	10	9	21	0	40	3.2
Carmarthenshire	5	3	11	0	19	2.7
Ceredigion and Mid Wales	1	3	11	0	15	6.7
Pembrokeshire and Derwen	21	8	13	0	42	7.3
Powys Healthcare	10	1	4	1	16	4.0
Swansea	14	39	19	1	73	4.4
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Conwy and Denbighshire	4	4	12	0	20	2.0
North East Wales	20	23	26	0	69	7.2
North West Wales	6	1	28	0	35	3.0
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Cardiff and Vale	26	81	93	0	200	9.0
Gwent	52	16	50	0	118	5.1
North Glamorgan	6	18	20	0	44	6.1
Pontypridd and Rhondda	3	17	26	0	46	5.1
Velindre	0	1	0	0	1	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>5.2</b>

Source: SDR 7/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: December 2004 and earlier editions, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government



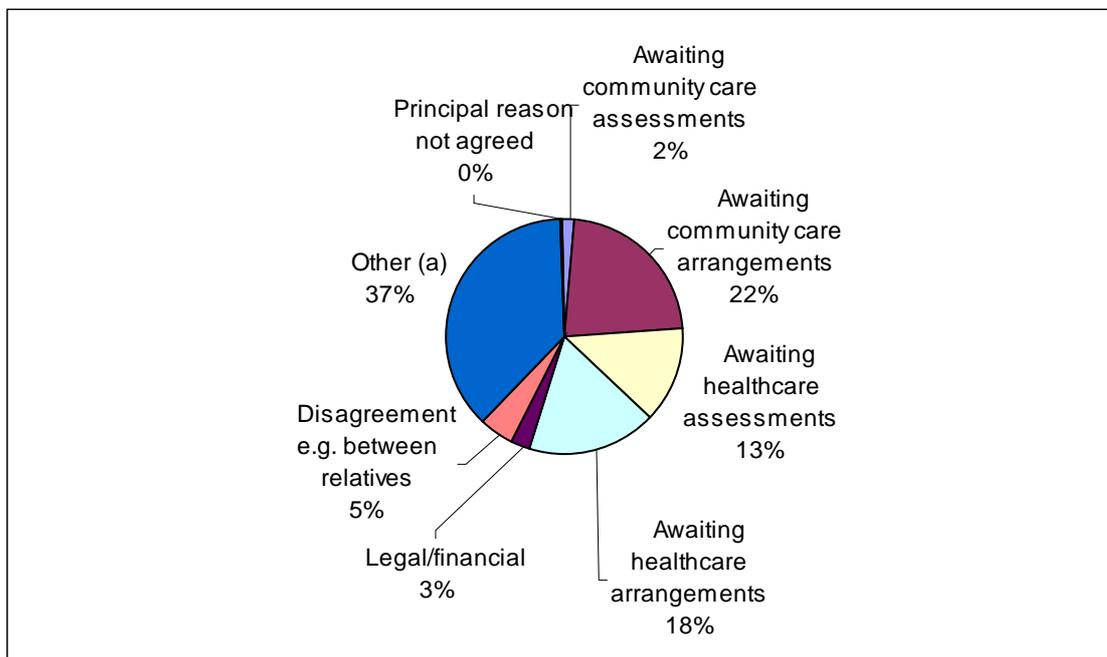
**Table B3: Delayed transfers of care, by reason for delay, December 2004**

Reason for delay	Number	Per cent
Social Care reasons	178	24.1
Awaiting community care assessments	12	1.6
Awaiting community care arrangements	166	22.5
Health Care reasons	224	30.4
Awaiting healthcare assessments	94	12.7
Awaiting healthcare arrangements	130	17.6
Patient/carer/family-related reasons	334	45.3
Legal/financial	19	2.6
Disagreement e.g. between relatives	34	4.6
Other (a)	281	38.1
Other		
Principal reason not agreed	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: SDR 7/2005 Delayed Transfers of Care: December 2004, NHS Performance and Operations Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) 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, December 2004**



(a) includes delays due to patients waiting for a place to become available in the care home of their choice.

## 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.<sup>7</sup>

The latest quarterly statistical release, SDR 8/2005, *NHS Hospital Waiting Times: at end December 2004*, was published on 26 January 2005.<sup>8</sup>

### 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.

The 2004 edition of the annual *Health Statistics Wales* is now available electronically and in hardback copy from the Members' Library.<sup>9</sup> This publication gives, among other statistics, morbidity, details of emergency admissions, numbers of beds and bed rates for the year 2002-2003. There are also 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 to 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.

<sup>7</sup><http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/eng/ReportFolders/Rfview/explorerp.asp>

<sup>8</sup><http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/health/2005/hdw200501263-e.htm>

<sup>9</sup>Health Statistics Wales, 2004

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/health/2003/hsw2004/hsw2004-intro-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.

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.*)