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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chairman: **Andrew Davies**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-E-026

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Corporate Administration  
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1 Talbot Gateway  
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Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. We apologise for the delay in responding. Your request sought information relating to hip, shoulder and knee surgery. The data below relates to June 2019.

**1. How many people are currently waiting for shoulder surgery within the health board's area – please state which hospitals are involved?**  
233 patients – Neath Port Talbot, Singleton and Morrison Hospital

**2. How many people were waiting for shoulder surgery in May 2018?**  
233 patients  
During 2018/19 we carried out 256 shoulder operations

**3. What is the waiting time now being advised to patients in need of this surgery within your health board area and broken down by hospital? How does this compare to the waiting time in May 2018. What is the target time for this type of operation?**  
We do not split the waiting times by hospital, some patients are appropriate to be treated on sites other than Morrison Hospital. The RTT target for Stage 5 (treatment) is 36 weeks.

The current wait time for shoulder surgery is 128 weeks for routine patients and 108 weeks for urgent patients. In May 2018 the wait time was 128 weeks.



**Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR**

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

**4. What action is the board taking to deal with this backlog of patients in a bid to reduce waiting times?**

We are investing in capacity within our hospitals to treat more orthopaedic patients; this is a permanent increase in capacity. We also plan to further increase the numbers of patients we can treat by commissioning capacity from other providers but we only want to use this as temporary measure whilst we have long waiting times. We are also in the process of recruiting a further upper-limb surgeon.

**5. How many people are waiting for hip replacement operations within the board's area and please state which hospitals are carrying out this surgery.**

615 patients – Morriston and Singleton Hospital

**6. How many people were waiting for hip replacement surgery in May 2018?**

556 patients

During 2018/19 we carried out 362 hip replacement operations

**7. What is the waiting time being advised to patients within the board's area at present and broken down by hospital? What was the waiting time in May 2018. What is the target time for this type of operation?**

We do not split the waiting times by hospital, some patients are appropriate to be treated on sites other than Morriston Hospital. The RTT target for Stage 5 (treatment) is 36 weeks.

The current wait time for hip surgery is 120 weeks for routine patients and 98 weeks for urgent patients. In May 2018 the wait time was 102 weeks.

**8. What action is being taken by the board to deal with this backlog and reduce waiting times.**

We are investing in capacity within our hospitals to treat more orthopaedic patients; this is a permanent increase in capacity. We also plan to further increase the numbers of patients we can treat by commissioning capacity from other providers but we only want to use this as temporary measure whilst we have long waiting times.

**9. How many people are waiting for knee replacement operations within the board's area and please state which hospitals are carrying out this surgery.**

773 patients - Neath Port Talbot, Singleton and Morriston Hospital



**10. How many people were waiting for a knee replacement in May 2018?**

754 patients

During 2018/19 we carried out 616 knee replacement operations

**11. What is the waiting time being advised to patients within the board's area at present and broken down by hospital? What was the waiting time in May 2018. What is the target time for this type of operation?**

We do not split the waiting times by hospital, albeit some patients are appropriate to be treated on sites other than Morriston. The RTT target for Stage 5 (treatment) is 36 weeks

The current wait time for knee surgery is 103 weeks for routine patients and 93 weeks for urgent patients. In May 2018 it was 99 weeks.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



On behalf of

Pam Wenger

**Director of Corporate Governance**

