



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Atebir gohebiaeth Gymraeg yn y Gymraeg, ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English. Welsh language correspondence will be replied to in Welsh, and this will not lead to a delay.

## **Cais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth / Freedom of Information request** **Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 23-A-032**

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused huge disruption to NHS services, not just in Swansea Bay but across the UK.

As with all health organisations, during the pandemic we suspended non-emergency services and appointments so our hospitals did not become overwhelmed while we cared for those seriously ill with the virus. Inevitably this has affected waiting times as it has done with all other health boards.

Clearly this was not something any of us would have wanted and we were extremely conscious of the potential consequences for patients.

Since the start of the pandemic we have continued to care for those requiring urgent treatment, and following the first wave we reintroduced many of our services and have done our best to keep disruption to a minimum throughout the subsequent waves, often with change in place to protect patients and staff, but continuing to provide as much planned care as possible.

Our hard-working staff have supported this by coming up with innovative solutions to protect services, adapt services to continue recognising the existence of the virus and introduce new ones specifically as a result of the virus – there are numerous examples on our website

### **You asked:**

#### **1. How many knee replacement surgeries are being undertaken on average each month?**

In the 12 month period November 2021 to October 2022 (the most recent 12 months of data available), an average of 14 knee replacement surgeries took place per month.

#### **2. If it hasn't already opened, when is it planned to open the extended orthopaedic surgical facility at Neath and Port Talbot?**

We have recently responded to an FOIA request regarding this subject. Therefore I can confirm that the information you are seeking is held on our website within our



**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

FOIA disclosure log. Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (information accessible by other means), we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you. May I therefore recommend that you look at this link to our website: <https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/files/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log-2022/november-2022/22-k-012-waiting-list-for-knee-replacement/>

**3. By what % is it expected that the through put rate of knee replacements will increase by?**

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**4. A rough estimate of when I might be lucky enough to reach a date for surgery?**

Unfortunately it isn't possible to provide exact expected or current waiting times for a patient on the waiting list for a knee replacement operation in SBUHB. Waiting times for these appointments can vary from patient to patient depending on their specific circumstances.

Therefore, in order to answer your question, we have provided the amount of time the majority of patients on our waiting list have been waiting for a knee replacement operation. This figure excludes any exceptional cases, who may have longer waits than usual for a variety of reasons personal to their individual cases.

As at 31st December 2022, 95% of patients waiting for a knee replacement had been waiting 204 weeks or less.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, there were 1307 patients on the waiting list for a knee replacement operation.

