



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-F-013**

Please note that this information is correct as at 31st May 2023.

You asked:

I would like to make an application under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the following information: (please provide the figures from 2019 - present, in calendar years not fiscal.)

1) How many patients are currently on the waiting list to see a dermatologist, after being referred by their GP?

As at 31st May 2023 the following patients were on a RTT (referral to treatment time) pathway;

Stage 1 (New appointments)	2,356 patients waiting
Stage 3 (Follow-up appointments)	101 patients waiting

2) What is the average waiting time for a patient to see a dermatologist, after being referred by their GP?

Please note that the "average" waiting time for patients waiting to be seen by a Dermatologist in the period 01.01.19 to 31.05.23 would not be representative of the actual time waited by these patients, as it includes both very short and urgent waits as well as patients that are waiting for extended periods for various reasons dependent on the personal clinical circumstances.

We have provided the waiting time for 80% of patients – the longest 20% of patients waiting were excluded to give a more accurate representation of the times waited.

On the current waiting list, 80% of patients have waited up to 132 days.



3) What is the longest time a patient has waited to see a dermatologist, after being referred by their GP (e.g. since 2019, how many patients have waited more than 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months...)?

We would not be able to provide the individual longest waits for single patients as there is a potential risk of identifying the individual if this was disclosed. Therefore, the data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

However, please find below the patient's waiting time banded by time waiting. Longest waiters will be indicated in the higher bands.

Wait bands	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023**
<6 months	6,471	3,135	4,410	4,960	2,020
6-11 months	1,089	1,729	2,041	2,063	1,324
12-17 months	46	313	846	42	23
18-23 months	0	17	110	5	<5*
24-29 months	0	0	18	28	18
30-35 months	0	<5*	0	18	<5*
36-41 months	0	0	<5*	<5*	<5*
42-47 months	0	0	0	5	0

**2023 data is for the period 01/01/2023 to 30/06/2023 inclusive

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*
Average wait	2.8	4.6	5.0	3.7	3.9

* Where fewer than 5 has been indicated we are unable to provide you with the exact number of patients as due to the low numbers, there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This information is protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

