



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-C-052**

Please note that from 1st April 2019 responsibility for providing healthcare services for people in the Bridgend County Borough Council area transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. In light of this change to ABMU's responsibilities, the organisation's name has changed to Swansea Bay University Health Board.

Therefore this response takes into account these changes and any information relating to the Bridgend area, will now be held by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

You asked:

Could you please send me the waiting times for orthodontic care for children under the age of 18 within your health board at 31st March 2023?

Could you also send me the figures for waiting times within your health board over the past 5 years please as at the 31st March for each year?

Our response:

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 first and subsequent waves 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 pandemic we reintroduced many of our services and have done our best to keep disruption to a minimum throughout the subsequent



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

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.

Please find below the information you have requested. We have grouped together patients by weeks waited as at 31st March of each year.

Wait in weeks	<12 weeks	12-25 weeks	26-38 weeks	39-51 weeks	>=52 weeks	Total number of patients waiting
31/03/2023	255	272	180	133	366	1206
31/03/2022	222	261	190	137	430	1240
31/03/2021	179	97	33	<5*	391	703
31/03/2020	380	184	<5*	0	0	567
31/03/2019	534	<5*	0	0	0	536
31/03/2018	138	45	0	0	0	183

* 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.

