

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3237

**Please reply to:**  
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28 April 2016

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the waiting times for 9 procedures.

*We are carrying out an investigation into the waiting times for 9 procedures across NHS trusts in England. These procedures are:*

- *Hip*
- *Knee*
- *Hernia*
- *Adenoid*
- *Gallstone*
- *Tonsillectomy*
- *Cataract*
- *Bariatric*
- *Gender reassignment*

Please see the attached completed questionnaire:

Name of Trust	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Name of Trust's CCG	NHS West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group (main CCG)

Freedom of Information: Elective Surgery

1. Which Regional/Area Team does your hospital belong to?

Please tick **ONE** of the following options:

North East	
North West	
West Midlands	
East Midlands	
Yorkshire and the Humber	
East of England	
South West	
South East	h
London	

2. Please set out the number of individual elective procedures that took place in your Trust in 2015 for the following categories –

Procedure	Number
Hip Replacement	411
Knee Replacement	418
Hernia Operations	709
Adenoid Operations	178
Gallstone Operations	533
Tonsillectomies	539
Cataract Operations	4318
Bariatric Surgery	0
Gender Reassignment Surgery	0

3. Please set out the mean average waiting time (in days), within your Trust, for each of the following procedures in 2015 – Please also include referral to treatment (RTT) waiting time

Procedure	Average Waiting Time (Days)	Referral to Treatment
Hip Replacement	86.8	108.7
Knee Replacement	100.3	121.6
Hernia Operations	55.9	83.3
Adenoid Operations	87.7	112.9

Gallstone Operations	46.8	73.3
Tonsillectomies	81.8	115.6
Cataract Operations	60.5	86.7
Bariatric Surgery	0	0
Gender Reassignment Surgery	0	0

4. Please set out the number of patients who waited over 18 weeks, within your Trust, for each of the following procedures in 2015 –

Procedure	Number of people who waited over 18 weeks
Hip Replacement	84
Knee Replacement	111
Hernia Operations	61
Adenoid Operations	53
Gallstone Operations	36
Tonsillectomies	141
Cataract Operations	174
Bariatric Surgery	0
Gender Reassignment Surgery	0

5. If a patient's needs were to change while on the Trust's waiting list is there a process to recognise this?

Yes	<b>Y</b>
No	

If yes, please describe

Pre Op Assessment, referred to new consultant
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6. What number of patient's surgeries were cancelled on the day in the calendar year of 2015?

382
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7. Please tick the most common reasons surgery is cancelled on the day?

Scheduling errors – i.e. lack of theatre time, surgeon unavailable	
Patient not prepped – i.e. not fasted	
Equipment shortages and/or lack of beds	<b>h</b>

Cancellation due to inadequate preoperative evaluation	
Patient failing to attend or operation no longer necessary	
Emergency case superseding the elective schedule	
Medical reasons – on-going infection, illness of family member	
Low Staffing levels	

Other, please specify

8. Have you implemented any improvement programs to improve access to meeting the (recommended) waiting time?

Theatre Improvements	
Admin / booking projects	
Pre-op assessment	Y
Diagnostic improvement	
Separation of elective and emergency beds	Y
Communication with patients	

Other, please specify

9. Have you implemented any bans on out of area referrals for any types of elective procedures?

Yes	
No	n

If  
yes

for which procedures?

10. Do you notify patients of their rights under the NHS Constitution when the 18 week limit has been missed?

Yes	
No	n

If Yes, how?

11. On average how many extra days or weeks did patients wait for surgery beyond the 18 week limit?

Procedure	Number
Hip Replacement	36 days
Knee Replacement	58 days
Hernia Operations	35 days
Adenoid Operations	32 days
Gallstone Operations	38 days
Tonsillectomies	43 days
Cataract Operations	66 days
Bariatric Surgery	0
Gender Reassignment Surgery	0