

Reference:	FOI.17857.25
Subject:	Knee replacement surgery wait times
Date of Request:	20 July 2025

Requested:

1. The average waiting time from referral to treatment for knee replacement surgery over the past 12 months, broken down by hospital if available.
2. The number of patients currently on the waiting list for knee replacement surgery, by hospital if possible.
3. The longest current waiting time for knee replacement surgery.
4. Any current targets or performance standards relating to waiting times for knee replacement surgery, and how these compare to actual performance.
5. If available, the average waiting time for patients aged 75 and over for knee replacement surgery.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the average wait time in days, from referral to treatment for knee replacement surgery, split by hospital, during the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2025.

Hospital Site	Wait time in days
Bronglais General Hospital (BGH)	684
Prince Philip Hospital (PPH)	676

2. The UHB is unable to provide you with the information broken down by hospital as the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS) records data based on which hospital the referral was received from, and this may differ from where the operation will take place. Therefore, the information will not accurately represent the waiting list at a specific hospital. However, the UHB confirms that there are one thousand, six hundred and seventy-seven patients (1,677) on the waiting list for knee replacement surgery, as of 30 July 2025.
3. The UHB confirms that the longest waiting time for knee replacement surgery is eight hundred and twenty-six days (826), as of 30 June 2025.
4. The UHB confirms that it adheres to Welsh Government (WG) guidance. WG issued a Ministerial Measure, Referral to Treatment Targets (RTT), to all Health Boards across Wales. These targets ask that Health Boards have no patients waiting longer than fifty-two (52) weeks for their first outpatient appointment and no longer than one hundred and four (104) weeks for surgery/treatment. The UHB's Trauma and Orthopaedics (T&O) Service achieved this target on 31 March 2025 and had no patients waiting longer than 104 weeks for their surgery. However, as of 30 June 2025, there were seventy-five (75) T&O breaches against this target, with a proportion of them being related to knee replacement surgery. The UHB is regularly monitored against this target by WG, as are all Health Boards across Wales.

5. The UHB provides, within the table below, the average wait time in days for patients aged 75 and over, for elective knee replacement surgery with an admission date between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025, split by hospital.

Hospital Site	Wait time in days
BGH	591
PPH	602