

Date: 20/01/2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013190 – Dermatology

1. If I were to be referred to your hospital today for a routine dermatology appointment, please indicate the date today and the first available routine new patient appointment (suggested addition).

Date today is the 17.1.17. After our clinical team have reviewed the referral a decision would be made as to the clinical need and urgency, as of today the next available slot would be on 15.3.17. This equates to an 8 week wait. We regularly monitor our waiting times and make every effort to ensure that patients are treated within 18 week weeks.

2. For routine referrals, what is the typical waiting time for a new patient appointment for a patient presenting with mild to moderate plaque psoriasis.

Once the referral has been reviewed by the clinical team, a patient would be offered the next available routine slot which as at 17.1.17, the date would be 15.3.17.

3. For urgent referrals, what is the typical time for an otherwise fit 80 year old with a four week history of blistering, suggestive of bullous pemphigoid.

With a condition such as bullous pemphigoid, which can be both an acute or chronic presentation, our clinical team would review the referral and grade appropriately e.g. routine or urgent. As at 17.1.17, the next urgent slot would be the 1.2.17. Clinics are reviewed for any unused slots e.g. from patients that either reschedule or cancel. If a slot becomes available at short notice we would make every effort to contact a person on the waiting list to facilitate an earlier appointment.

4. If I were to be referred to your hospital today for an urgent dermatology appointment, please indicate the date today and the first available urgent new appointment.

As at 17.1.17 the next urgent appointment would be on 1.2.17. All clinics are monitored daily for any unused slots which result from patient cancellations or a reschedule. If a slot becomes available at short notice we would contact the patient to see if they could attend earlier than planned.

5. In 2015, how many dermatology referrals were inappropriately sent to secondary care or community services for excluded skin condition criteria?

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide this information as it is not collected.

6. In the year 2015/16 how many non 2 week wait dermatology referrals did you receive and how many breached the 18 week target.

During the period of 2015/16 there were 3734 routine outpatient referrals to Dermatology and there were 21 routine outpatient 18 week breaches reported