

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-022024-000674

Date: 04/03/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

I'd like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act on cancer treatment wait times at your trust.

For each of these questions I am looking for figures consistent with those used for the 62-day referral to treatment standard, i.e. how long in calendar days it took for a patient to start treatment after their referral for suspected cancer and diagnosis, as measured from the date of the urgent referral.

1. The number of patients who waited a) over 124 days (i.e. 4 months) and b) over 186 days (i.e. 6 months) between an urgent referral from their GP and starting their first treatment for cancer. Please can you provide figures for each of the past four calendar years (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020).
2. The single longest wait in days for a patient to start cancer treatment, as measured from the date of the urgent referral, in the 2023 calendar year?
3. The current longest wait in days for a patient still waiting to start their cancer treatment, as measured from the date of urgent referral.

Response

1. The number of patients who waited a) over 124 days (i.e. 4 months) and b) over 186 days (i.e. 6 months) between an urgent referral from their GP and starting their first treatment for cancer.

Please can you provide figures for each of the past four calendar years (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020).

The below are patients who were treated in the year and how many days they had waited. We have taken out patients treated at tertiary centres and those that were delayed due to other health issues as they would have been adjusted.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
> 124 days	31	27	41	63
> 186 days	8	6	7	4

2. The single longest wait in days for a patient to start cancer treatment, as measured from the date of the urgent referral, in the 2023 calendar year?

511 days, this patient was referred to us from another trust on day 412 on the pathway, patient required staging scans to ensure suitability for surgery which delayed surgery here.

3. The current longest wait in days for a patient still waiting to start their cancer treatment, as measured from the date of urgent referral.

As of 23/02/2024: 175 days

This patient is awaiting joint surgery which has contributed to the delays.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dqft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**