

Provincial Wait Time Benchmark Update

During the second quarter of 2013-2014 (July 1 to September 30), wait time reports demonstrate that, on average, 95 per cent of residents of Newfoundland and Labrador received timely access to benchmark procedures within the recommended targets, which is consistent with the three previous quarter's strong results. Almost 100 per cent of patients received access to radiation treatment within 28 days; 100 per cent of cardiac bypass patients had surgery within 98 days, which is much sooner than the benchmark of 182 days; 96 per cent of first eye cataract procedures were performed within 112 days; 98 per cent of residents accessed hip replacement surgery and 96 per cent knee replacement within 182 days; and 86 per cent of hip fracture surgeries were performed in less than 48 hours.

Curative Radiotherapy

The national benchmark for radiation treatment is 28 days. During this quarter, 97 per cent of 194 newly diagnosed cancer patients began radiation treatment within the 28 day benchmark. The time in which half (or the median) of these patients waited to begin treatment was 14 days, and the number of days in which nine out of 10 patients (90th percentile) began treatment was 25 days.

Cardiac Bypass Surgery

The national benchmark has three tiers: Level 1 within 14 days; Level 2 within 42 days; and Level 3 within 182 days. During this quarter, 87 cardiac bypass surgeries were performed. Wait time data demonstrated: 100 per cent of 19 Level 1 cases were completed within 14 days; 91 per cent of 27 Level 2 cases were completed in 42 days; and 100 per cent of 41 Level 3 cases were completed within 98 days. Median wait times were 1 day for Level 1, 8 days for Level 2 and 37 days for Level 3; the 90th percentile was 3, 37, and 64 days respectively. At the end of September 2013, 17 patients were waiting for cardiac bypass surgery in the province.

Cataracts

The national benchmark for cataract surgery is 112 days. Nearly 1300 cataract cases were completed in this quarter, including 752 procedures on the first eye. In the Eastern region, 95 per cent of 377 first eye cases were performed in 112 days; the median was 45 days; and the 90th percentile was 99 days. In the Central region, 83 per cent of 50 first eye cases were completed in 112 days; the median was 94 days; and the 90th percentile was 120 days. In the Western region, 100 per cent of the 183 first eye cases were completed in 112 days; the median was 30 days; and the 90th percentile was 70 days. In the Labrador-Grenfell region, the itinerant specialist did not visit to perform cataract surgery this quarter.

Hip Replacement

The national benchmark for hip replacement surgery is 182 days. During this quarter, nearly 100 hip replacement surgeries were completed in the province. In the Eastern region, 100 per cent of 60 cases were completed within 182 days; the median was 57 days; and the 90th percentile was 132 days. In the Central region, 100 per cent of 18 cases were completed within 155 days which is sooner than the benchmark; the median was 111 days; and the 90th percentile was 126 days. In the Western region, 94 per cent of 19 hip replacements were completed within 182 days; the median was 116 days; the 90th percentile was 172 days. In the Labrador-Grenfell region, due to the low number of surgeries being completed, data for this quarter was suppressed.

Knee Replacement

The national benchmark for knee replacement surgery is 182 days. There were 202 knee joint replacement cases completed in this quarter. In the Eastern region, 93 per cent of 122 cases were completed within the 182 day benchmark; the median was 71 days; and the 90th percentile was 136 days. In the Central region, 96 per cent of 36 cases were completed within the benchmark; the median was 104 days; and the 90th percentile was 173 days. In the Western region, 100 per cent of 37 cases were completed within 182 days; the median was 62 days; and the 90th percentile was 155 days. In the Labrador-Grenfell region, due to the low number of surgeries being completed, data for this quarter was suppressed.

Hip Fracture Repair

The national benchmark for hip fracture surgery is 48 hours. There were just over 100 hip fracture surgeries completed in this quarter. In the Eastern region, 79 per cent of 72 cases were completed in 47 hours; the median wait was 34 hours and 43 minutes and the 90th percentile was 51 hours and 39 minutes. In the Central region, 100 per cent of 22 cases were completed in 39 hours and 21 minutes, which is sooner than the benchmark of 48 hours. In the Western region, 100 per cent of 16 hip fracture surgeries were completed in 33 hours and 28 minutes; which is also sooner than the 48 hour benchmark. In the Labrador-Grenfell region, due to the low number of surgeries being completed, data for this quarter was suppressed.

**Provincial Wait Times Data
2013-14 Quarter 2: July 1 to September 30**

Service Area	Pan-Canadian benchmarks	Newfoundland and Labrador Wait Times - Second Quarter (July 1 - September 30, 2013)
Curative Radiotherapy	Within 4 weeks (28 days) of being ready to treat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 97%
Coronary Bypass Surgery (CABG)	Level 1 Within 2 weeks (14 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100%
	Level 2 Within 6 weeks (42 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91%
	Level 3 Within 26 weeks (182 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% in 98 days
Cataract	Within 16 weeks (112 days) for patients who are at high risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Health: 95% First eye Central Health: 83% First eye Western Health: 100% First eye Labrador-Grenfell Health: NS Provincial: 96% First eye
Hip Replacement	Within 26 weeks (182 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Health: 100% Central Health: 100% in 155 days Western Health: 94% Labrador-Grenfell Health: DS Provincial: 98%
Knee Replacement	Within 26 weeks (182 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Health: 93% Central Health: 96% Western Health: 100% Labrador-Grenfell Health: DS Provincial: 96%
Hip Fracture Repair	Fixation within 48 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Health: 79% in 47h Central Health: 100% in 39h 21m Western Health: 100% in 33h 28m Labrador-Grenfell Health: DS Provincial: 86% in 48h
Breast Screening	Women aged 50-69 every two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation rates will continue to be updated on an annual basis.
Cervical Screening	Women, starting at age 18, every three years to age 69 after two normal pap tests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation rates will continue to be updated on an annual basis.
<p>Data Source: Regional Health Authorities, Newfoundland and Labrador. Notes: In Labrador-Grenfell region, no cataract cases (NS) and a low number (DS) of hip replacements, knee replacements and hip fracture surgeries were performed this quarter. Date: January 15, 2014.</p>		