



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_433_25

You asked:

With regards to the FOIs' wording below, if your health board does not have its own BMI policy regarding access to orthopaedic surgery, please interpret the following wording in the FOIs 'your health board's BMI policy' as including your practice based on your Health Board's interpretation of regional or national guidelines.

Total number of Lists given. This is because single patient, can have more than 1 referral to a list to T&O

1. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?

Please see the information provided in the table below. Noting, the data is for total removals only.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
2019	169	140	103	99	98	132	128
2023	218	255	336	239	175	185	175
2024	139	125	126	109	149	165	153
2025	131	197	335	253	196	245	155

2. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure by each of the data categories you use for such removals, in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?

Please see the information provided in the tables below by year, month and category for removal. Noting, the data is for total removals only.

	2019						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Active monitoring commenced today							
Discharged / referred back to GP	5	3	2	1	5	4	2
Decision to change pathway, treatment in the future							
Did not attend							
Event unknown at present							
Hospital Cancellation						1	

No action - await further review							
No change to Pathway							
Patient deceased	2		2	1	1	1	1
Patient declined treatment	94	62	53	73	62	57	71
Patient Journey ends	1	4	1	2	3	4	5
Patient treated elsewhere (including treatment as emergency)	50	60	42	12	25	54	49
Refusal of reasonable offer	17	11	3	10	2	10	1
Referred to another Consultant							
See on Symptom							
Treatment commenced today							

	2023						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Active monitoring commenced today							
Discharged / referred back to GP	11	11	12	4	5	2	2
Decision to change pathway, treatment in the future							
Did not attend							
Event unknown at present							
Hospital Cancellation	2	10	2	1	2	2	
No action - await further review		1	1			1	2
No change to Pathway			2	3	4	2	1
Patient deceased	8	6	3	6	4	3	4
Patient declined treatment	142	146	174	157	106	87	95
Patient Journey ends	5	11	12	6	3	2	12
Patient treated elsewhere (including treatment as emergency)	46	67	128	55	46	83	54
Refusal of reasonable offer	4	3	2	6	5	3	5
Referred to another Consultant							
See on Symptom				1			
Treatment commenced today							

	2024						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Active monitoring commenced today				1	1	1	
Discharged / referred back to GP	4	1	4	2	4	3	1
Decision to change pathway, treatment in the future			1				
Did not attend						1	
Event unknown at present				1			
Hospital Cancellation	3	9	5		6	2	1
No action - await further review	2	1		2		3	1
No change to Pathway	2	1	12		1	2	2
Patient deceased	4	4	7	7	3	5	6
Patient declined treatment	77	66	65	73	93	115	102

Patient Journey ends	9	11	19	4	4	1	8
Patient treated elsewhere (including treatment as emergency)	38	30	13	17	37	31	29
Refusal of reasonable offer		2		1		1	2
Referred to another Consultant				1			1
See on Symptom							
Treatment commenced today							

	2025						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Active monitoring commenced today	1	4	5	2	3	16	
Discharged / referred back to GP	2	3	9		2	2	4
Decision to change pathway, treatment in the future							
Did not attend						2	
Event unknown at present							
Hospital Cancellation		1	2	3		1	4
No action - await further review				1		1	1
No change to Pathway		5	6	2	2	2	4
Patient deceased	2		6	6	1	2	3
Patient declined treatment	89	112	125	88	92	67	94
Patient Journey ends	1	3	2	3	7	3	9
Patient treated elsewhere (including treatment as emergency)	35	65	172	144	79	128	32
Refusal of reasonable offer	1	4	8	3	10	21	4
Referred to another Consultant							
See on Symptom							
Treatment commenced today				1			

3. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure due to their BMI score as a consequence of your health board's BMI policy in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?

At CTM, BMI alone is not used to deny access to treatment and therefore patients are not automatically removed or excluded from Orthopaedic treatment. However, a number of cases may require additional Pre-assessment and optimisation for surgery suitability. For this reason, CTM has no symptomatic removal code or process to illustrate patients being removed from the T&O waiting list due to a BMI score.

4. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?

Please see the number of resets, provided in the table.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
2019	0	3	1	5	2	1	1
2023	4	2	9	10	2	7	8
2024	5	2	4	7	8	9	12
2025	8	10	17	37	20	16	15

Please note, At CTM, when a decision is made not to proceed to treatment at the present time, the clock will stop. Such events include where a decision has been made that no treatment is required, patient declines treatment or when a patient commences a period of pre-optimisation or is unavailable for medical or social reasons longer than a 6-week period. If, following the clock stop the patient actively prepare for treatment e.g. pre-optimisation, pre-habilitation and the patient is deemed fit-for-treatment by a healthcare professional, the clock will restart at the appropriate stage of the pathway and continue until treatment is commenced.

- 5. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure by each of the data categories you use for such cases in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?**

As above.

- 6. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure as a consequence of your health board's BMI policy in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?**

At CTM, BMI alone is not used to deny access to treatment although such cases may require an optimisation assessment to evaluate their fitness for surgery, particularly for weight-bearing procedures, where a higher BMI can increase anaesthetic and surgical risks. However, if, following a period of optimisation longer than a 6-week period the reset, stop or active monitoring function may apply, however if the patient is actively preparing for treatment and the patient is deemed fit-for-treatment the clock will restart at the appropriate stage of the pathway and continue until treatment is commenced.

CTM has no data or policy to illustrate patients are being reset, stopped or paused without receiving specific orthopaedic treatment as a consequence of BMI.

- 7. How many patients in your health board have not been referred to the T&O waiting list from CMATS due to their BMI score as a consequence of your Health Board's BMI policy in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019?**

We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require may be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.