

Request title: Cancellations 2013-2016

Date of Response: 5th April 2016

Further to your Freedom of Information request, the Trust has answered your questions in the order they appear in your request.

Request and reply

How many appointments have been cancelled for non-clinical reasons IN THE 3 DAY BEFORE a patient was due to be admitted?

The Trust is only able to provide information on the same day hospital cancellations, as these are routinely recorded, extracted and reported. The current central system does not record the reasons for pre on the day cancellations/alterations. For this reason, the Trust has not provided any data on pre same day patient cancellations as this would require investigating each cancellation individually.

Out of those cancellations, how many were rescheduled within the statutory time limit - eg 28 days?
Not applicable due to the fact that the 28 day target does not apply for pre-on the day cancellations.

Out of those cancellations, how many were rescheduled more than once?
Unable to answer, please see the reason above.

How many appointments have been cancelled for non-clinical reasons ON THE DAY a patient was due to be admitted?

In the period from 01/01/2013 to 29/02/2016 there have been 1,500 same day hospital cancellations (Reporting Month March 2016 is not available yet as validation work will be finished in April).

Please note that the Trust is only able to provide information on the same day hospital cancellations, as these are routinely recorded, extracted and reported.

The current central system does not record the reasons for pre on the day cancellations/alterations. For this reason, the Trust has not provided any data on pre same day patient cancellations as this would require investigating each cancellation individually.

Breakdown by year and month: See attachment à tab: 'Summary'

Numbers are collected as per NHS England guidance and they relate to cancellations where the hospital is responsible for the cancellation .

Therefore when a patient's operation is cancelled by the hospital at the last minute for non-clinical reasons, the hospital should offer another binding date within a maximum of the next 28 days, or fund the patient's treatment at the time and hospital of the patient's choice.

Further data, information and guidance can be found on

here: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/cancelled-elective-operations/cancelled-ops-data/>

This section holds data on the number of cancelled elective operations and breaches of the standard. Data is also available on the total number of operating theatres and those which are dedicated day case theatres.

Overview:

The Cancelled Operations data is collected on a quarterly basis from NHS providers (NHS Trusts and other providers).

When a patient's operation is cancelled by the hospital at the last minute for non-clinical reasons, the hospital should offer another binding date within a maximum of the next 28 days, or fund the patient's treatment at the time and hospital of the patient's choice.

Last minute means on the day the patient was due to arrive, after the patient has arrived in hospital or on the day of the operation or surgery.

What is included?

- All planned or elective operations (including day cases).
- Invasive X-ray procedures carried out on inpatients or day cases should be counted, as an operation and any cancelled procedures.
- Telephone cancellations made to patients on or after the day of admission.

Breaches of the standard: The number of patients NOT treated within 28 days of the last minute cancellation.

Out of those cancellations, how many were rescheduled within the statutory time limit – eg 28 days?

1,247 were rescheduled within 28 days

124 were not rescheduled within 28 days due to patient choice. Patients choose not to be treated within 28 days and did request to be treated at a later date.

20 were not rescheduled as the procedure was no longer needed by the patient.

Out of those cancellations, how many were rescheduled more than once?

The current central system does not record the rescheduling history of cancellations. Only the latest up to date appointment is available on the system.

Please provide this data by month for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 - up to and including March 2016.