

December 23, 2020



Re: Partial Access – OUR FILE# NSHA-2020-69

On 2020/11/27 Nova Scotia Health received your request under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act for a copy of the following:

Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure in fiscal year 2019-20. Please break the data out by procedure and case info - date the patient was referred to a specialist, decision date, date for the procedure and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the procedure in question. (Note: many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations)

Attached / Enclosed, please find a copy of the records located in response to your request. Please kindly note that we have withheld the dates requested in your request due to the possibility of identification of patients. Portions of these records have been withheld pursuant to sections 20 (personal information) of the FOIPOP Act.

In relation to your request for:

Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for either a diagnostic scan or a consultation with a specialist in fiscal year 2019-20. Please break the data out by procedure and case info- date the patient went on the waiting list, date for the meeting with the specialist or date for diagnostic scan (if scheduled), and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the meeting or scan in question. (Note: many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations)

Please kindly note that we have no dataset that captures this kind of information. We are now closing your application with our office.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address or telephone number provided above.

You have the right to seek a review with the Review Officer within 60 days of receiving this decision. Complete details of the process are outlined on the website of the Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner:

<https://foipop.ns.ca/request-a-review>

Sincerely,

Fola Adeleke

For: The Privacy Office
Nova Scotia Health Authority

c/c: to file

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
V - Within 26 weeks	182	978	-796	ABDOMINAL PERINEAL RESECTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	390	-208	AMPUTATION
Ila - Within 7 days	7	21	-14	AMPUTATION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	16	75	ANGIOPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	850	-668	ARTHROPLASTY HIP REVISION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1609	-1427	ARTHROPLASTY HIP REVISION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	72	-30	AV FISTULA CREATION/REVISION/CLOSURE
III - Within 6 weeks	42	522	-480	AV FISTULA CREATION/REVISION/CLOSURE
Ila - Within 7 days	7	316	-309	AV FISTULA CREATION/REVISION/CLOSURE
Ilb - Within 3 weeks	21	1214	-1193	BIOPSY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	39	3	BOWEL RESECTION/REPAIR
III - Within 6 weeks	42	110	-68	BOWEL RESECTION/REPAIR
Ila - Within 7 days	7	54	-47	BYPASS GRAFT
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	590	-499	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	590	-499	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	548	-457	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	244	-153	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	244	-153	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	548	-457	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	539	-448	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	539	-448	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	981	-799	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	954	-863	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	121	-30	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	121	-30	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	86	5	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	86	5	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	493	-402	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	493	-402	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	558	-467	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	558	-467	CATARACT EXTRACTION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	233	-191	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	144	-53	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	144	-53	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	344	-253	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1120	-1029	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	84	7	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	84	7	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	270	-179	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	270	-179	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	155	27	CATARACT EXTRACTION

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	326	-235	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	25	66	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	25	66	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	454	-272	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	454	-272	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	46	45	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	46	45	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	107	258	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	29	62	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	29	62	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	11	171	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	11	171	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	131	51	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	131	51	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	20	162	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	20	162	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	53	312	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	216	-125	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	304	-213	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1203	-1112	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	191	174	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	109	73	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	109	73	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	235	-144	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	235	-144	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	23	68	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	768	-677	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	48	43	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1537	-1446	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	258	-167	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	258	-167	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	106	-15	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	106	-15	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	21	70	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	21	70	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	148	-57	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	148	-57	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	143	-52	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	143	-52	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	234	-143	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1306	-1215	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1306	-1215	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	935	-844	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	34	57	CATARACT EXTRACTION

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
V - Within 26 weeks	182	56	126	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	56	126	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	119	-28	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	110	-19	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	110	-19	CATARACT EXTRACTION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	37	5	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	34	148	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	34	148	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	295	-204	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	295	-204	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	19	72	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	19	72	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	151	-60	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	-164	529	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	219	-128	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	219	-128	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	456	-365	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	289	-198	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	289	-198	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	53	38	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	53	38	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	64	27	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	64	27	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1215	-1124	CATARACT EXTRACTION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	84	-42	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	877	-786	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	241	-150	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	467	-285	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	53	312	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1039	-857	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1039	-857	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	12	79	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	139	-48	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	139	-48	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	613	-522	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	613	-522	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	187	-5	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	187	-5	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	248	-157	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	212	153	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	41	50	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	18	73	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	257	-166	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	257	-166	CATARACT EXTRACTION

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
V - Within 26 weeks	182	104	78	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	104	78	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	95	-4	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	346	-255	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	346	-255	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	408	-317	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	422	-57	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	199	-108	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	447	-356	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	157	-66	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	157	-66	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	421	-330	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	421	-330	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1395	-1304	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	399	-308	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	399	-308	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	260	-169	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	260	-169	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	179	186	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	31	60	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	198	167	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1333	-1242	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	58	124	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	58	124	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	217	-109	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	217	-109	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1292	-1201	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	169	13	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	112	-21	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	456	-365	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	145	-54	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	145	-54	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	74	17	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	74	17	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	158	-67	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	158	-67	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	68	23	CATARACT EXTRACTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	99	83	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	124	-33	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	124	-33	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	265	100	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	439	-348	CATARACT EXTRACTION
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	899	-534	CATARACT EXTRACTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	20	71	CATARACT EXTRACTION

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
III - Within 6 weeks	42	154	-112	CIRCUMCISION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	555	-373	CIRCUMCISION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	104	78	CLOSURE COLOSTOMY/ILEOSTOMY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	269	96	COCHLEAR IMPLANTATION OR REMOVAL
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	379	-358	CYSTECTOMY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	24	-3	CYSTECTOMY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	46	-4	CYSTOLITHOPAXY/ CYSTOLITHOTOMY
NULL	NULL	1070	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	740	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	574	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	1221	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	1137	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	731	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	689	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	112	-21	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	132	-41	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1593	-1502	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	1780	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	1599	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	1522	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	281	-190	CYSTOSCOPY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	55	-34	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	131	51	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	182	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	934	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	348	-306	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	15	76	CYSTOSCOPY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	84	-63	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	258	-167	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	477	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	532	-350	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	448	-266	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	269	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	22	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	44	47	CYSTOSCOPY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	467	-446	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	150	32	CYSTOSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	44	321	CYSTOSCOPY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	74	-53	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	65	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	702	-611	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	257	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	202	-111	CYSTOSCOPY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	17	4	CYSTOSCOPY

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	113	252	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	538	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	221	-130	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	212	-121	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	438	-347	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	888	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	37	54	CYSTOSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	24	-3	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	273	-91	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	14	77	CYSTOSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	306	59	CYSTOSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	96	269	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	69	113	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	49	42	CYSTOSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	60	305	CYSTOSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	167	-146	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	10	81	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	97	-6	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	86	5	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	39	52	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	53	38	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	159	-68	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	395	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	41	-20	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	103	-12	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	719	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	59	32	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	297	-206	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	313	-222	CYSTOSCOPY
Iia - Within 7 days	7	2	5	CYSTOSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	93	-72	CYSTOSCOPY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	416	-374	CYSTOSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	50	-29	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	702	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	286	-104	CYSTOSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	473	-108	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1274	-1092	CYSTOSCOPY
NULL	NULL	809	NULL	CYSTOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	180	2	CYSTOSCOPY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	54	37	CYSTOSCOPY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	89	-47	CYSTOSCOPY URETEROSCOPY
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	153	-132	CYSTOSCOPY/TURB
III - Within 6 weeks	42	55	-13	CYSTOSCOPY/TURB
Iib - Within 3 weeks	21	68	-47	CYSTOSCOPY/TURB

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
III - Within 6 weeks	42	63	-21	CYSTOSCOPY/TURB
III - Within 6 weeks	42	23	19	CYSTOSCOPY/TURB
III - Within 6 weeks	42	282	-240	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	134	-43	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
III - Within 6 weeks	42	94	-52	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
III - Within 6 weeks	42	87	-45	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
III - Within 6 weeks	42	141	-99	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
V - Within 26 weeks	182	128	54	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	87	278	CYSTOSCOPY/TURP
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	103	-12	DEBRIDEMENT
IIa - Within 7 days	7	93	-86	DEBRIDEMENT
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	591	-500	DENTOALVEOLAR SURGERY (EXTRACTIONS, APICOECTOMY)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	219	-128	DENTOALVEOLAR SURGERY (EXTRACTIONS, APICOECTOMY)
IIa - Within 7 days	7	476	-469	DMSO/ BLADDER INSTILLATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	12	9	ENDOVASCULAR AORTIC ANEURYSM REPAIR (EVAR)
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	131	-110	ESOPHAGECTOMY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	38	4	EXCHANGE/ INSERTION INTRAOCULAR LENS
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	56	-35	EXCISION MELANOMA
III - Within 6 weeks	42	555	-513	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
III - Within 6 weeks	42	181	-139	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
V - Within 26 weeks	182	25	157	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	399	-378	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	142	-121	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	-6	27	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
III - Within 6 weeks	42	27	15	EXCISION OF CYST/GANGLION/LESION/LIPOMA
III - Within 6 weeks	42	17	25	EXCISION OF TUMOR
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	93	-2	FOREIGN BODY REMOVAL
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	367	-2	FUNCTIONAL ENDOSCOPIC SINUS SURGERY (FESS)
V - Within 26 weeks	182	26	156	FUNCTIONAL ENDOSCOPIC SINUS SURGERY (FESS)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	116	-25	FUNCTIONAL ENDOSCOPIC SINUS SURGERY (FESS)

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
V - Within 26 weeks	182	194	-12	HAND/FINGER ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	320	45	HAND/FINGER ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	45	137	HEAD: CRANIOTOMY FOR ANEURYSM
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	692	-327	HERNIORRAPHY - PARASTOMAL
V - Within 26 weeks	182	187	-5	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	609	-518	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
III - Within 6 weeks	42	108	-66	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	938	-573	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
III - Within 6 weeks	42	160	-118	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
V - Within 26 weeks	182	63	119	HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/FEMORAL (GROIN)
V - Within 26 weeks	182	193	-11	HERNIORRAPHY-UMBILICAL/ PARAUMBILICAL
V - Within 26 weeks	182	442	-260	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	168	-77	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	1889	-1524	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	834	-469	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	556	-191	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	102	80	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	56	35	HIP ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	549	-184	HIP ARTHROSCOPY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	15	27	HYDROCELECTOMY
Ila - Within 7 days	7	203	-196	INSERTION/REMOVAL VASCULAR ACCESS CATHETER
Ilb - Within 3 weeks	21	53	-142	INSERTION/REMOVAL VASCULAR ACCESS CATHETER
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	742	-651	KERATOPLASTY/ CORNEAL TRANSPLANT
V - Within 26 weeks	182	83	99	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	304	-262	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1311	-1129	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	1147	-1056	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	59	123	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	130	52	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	159	23	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	159	23	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	80	102	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	32	150	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	455	-273	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	283	-101	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	186	-95	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	630	-448	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	630	-448	KNEE ARTHROPLASTY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	262	-171	LAPAROSCOPIC BOWEL RESECTION/ REPAIR
III - Within 6 weeks	42	1191	-1149	LAPAROSCOPIC BOWEL RESECTION/ REPAIR
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	15	6	LAPAROSCOPIC BOWEL RESECTION/ REPAIR
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	984	-893	LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	20	162	LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY
IIa - Within 7 days	7	451	-444	LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	140	-49	LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	2136	-2045	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INCISIONAL
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	2283	-1918	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INCISIONAL
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	1707	-1342	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/ FEMORAL (GROIN)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	159	-68	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/ FEMORAL (GROIN)
III - Within 6 weeks	42	140	-98	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/ FEMORAL (GROIN)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	578	-487	LAPAROSCOPIC HERNIORRAPHY- INGUINAL/ FEMORAL (GROIN)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	437	-346	LAPAROSCOPIC-NISSEN FUNDOPLICATION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	661	-619	LAPAROSCOPY-DIAGNOSTIC
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	39	52	LARYNGECTOMY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	1230	-1209	MANIPULATION EXTREMITY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	113	-71	MASTECTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	322	-231	MAXILLOFACIAL DEFORMITIES
III - Within 6 weeks	42	70	-28	NECK DISSECTION (ANY TYPE)
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	48	-27	NECK DISSECTION (ANY TYPE)
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	23	-2	OOPHORECTOMY/SALPINGECTOMY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	30	-9	OPEN REDUCTION INTERNAL FIXATION FRACTURE (ORIF)
IIa - Within 7 days	7	944	-937	ORTHO BIOPSY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	21	21	ORTHO BIOPSY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	59	-17	PACEMAKER INSERTION/EXPLOR/REMOVAL/W/WO REPLACEMENT LEAD OR BATTERY

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	5	86	PACEMAKER INSERTION/EXPLOR/REMOVAL/W/WO REPLACEMENT LEAD OR BATTERY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	98	-56	PACEMAKER INSERTION/EXPLOR/REMOVAL/W/WO REPLACEMENT LEAD OR BATTERY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	56	-14	PANAENDOSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	785	-603	PARATHYROIDECTOMY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	974	-792	PARATHYROIDECTOMY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	307	58	PAROTIDECTOMY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	264	101	RECONSTRUCTION / DECOMPRESSION ORBIT
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	32	333	RECONSTRUCTION EYELID
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	630	-539	RECTAL BOWEL RESECTION/REPAIR
V - Within 26 weeks	182	414	-232	REMOVAL BREAST IMPLANT
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	194	-103	REPAIR ANEURYSM
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	945	-580	REPAIR/RECONSTRUCTION LIGAMENT/TENDON/MUSCLE/FASCIA
III - Within 6 weeks	42	61	-19	REVISION SCAR
V - Within 26 weeks	182	489	-307	SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	462	-97	SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	1795	-1613	SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	249	116	SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	65	117	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	135	230	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	666	-484	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	198	-16	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	464	-99	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	1226	-861	SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	110	255	SKIN GRAFT
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	246	-155	SPINE: CERVICAL FUSION ANTERIOR
III - Within 6 weeks	42	280	-238	STERNOTOMY/THORACOTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	47	44	SUPRAPUBIC CATHETER INSERTION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	708	-687	SUPRAPUBIC CATHETER INSERTION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	87	4	SURGERY FOR FEMALE INCONTINENCE
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	154	211	TEMPEROMANDIBULAR JOINT
IIa - Within 7 days	7	168	-161	TEMPORAL ARTERY BIOPSY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	31	-10	THORACOSCOPY/PLEUROSCOPY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	720	-355	THYROIDECTOMY
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	349	16	THYROIDECTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	95	-4	THYROIDECTOMY
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	79	12	THYROIDECTOMY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	170	12	THYROIDECTOMY
III - Within 6 weeks	42	94	-52	TONSILLECTOMY

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	398	-377	TRABECULECTOMY/ GLAUCOMA SURGERY
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	19	2	TRACHEOSTOMY
V - Within 26 weeks	182	111	71	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	18	3	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	114	68	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	107	-16	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	243	-152	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	18	3	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	-26	208	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	32	-11	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	4	17	URETER- CATHETER/STENT INSERTION/REMOVAL OR DILATION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	7	14	URETEROLITHOTOMY
IIa - Within 7 days	7	2	5	VALVE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR
IIa - Within 7 days	7	10	-3	VALVE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	65	-44	VALVE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	71	-50	VALVE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR
VI - Within 52 weeks	365	535	-170	VARICOSE VEIN LIGATION/STRIPPING
III - Within 6 weeks	42	24	18	VATS APICAL RESECTION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	300	-279	VATS APICAL RESECTION
IIb - Within 3 weeks	21	67	-46	VATS APICAL RESECTION
V - Within 26 weeks	182	207	-25	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
V - Within 26 weeks	182	207	-25	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	260	-169	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	89	-216	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IIa - Within 7 days	7	749	-742	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)

Priority	Target Wait In Days	Number of Days Waiting	Days Past Target	Procedure
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	65	26	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	2242	-2151	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	852	-761	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	190	-99	VITRECTOMY/VITREORETINAL PROCEDURE (removal IO lens, scleral buckle)
IV - Within 13 weeks	91	222	-131	VOCAL CORD AUGMENTATION
III - Within 6 weeks	42	16	26	VOCAL CORD AUGMENTATION

Interpretation of Data

In the attached dataset we can see that 424 patients died while waiting for surgery among over 25,000 patients who were on the waiting list for surgery during the calendar year 2019. This is a consistent figure over the past several years. The great majority (391/424) of deaths occurred in patients awaiting procedures that would not be anticipated to change the probability of death. For example, 160 deaths occurred among patients awaiting cataract surgery. Other examples of procedures not anticipated to be implicated in mortality include cystoscopy; orthopaedic procedures for arthritis; dental surgery; and other procedures that do not involve either cancer treatment or cardiovascular procedures. Thirty three (7.8%) of all deaths on the waiting list involved procedures where delays in treatment might reasonably be implicated causally. Among these are bowel resections; angioplasty; pacemaker insertion; cancer resections and abdominal aneurysm surgery. Among these, just under two thirds were waiting beyond the recommended wait times for the procedure in question. At this point we do not have precise data around cause of death for these patients and cannot comment on the probability of death avoidance if surgery were performed.

It is worthwhile noting that this data is based on our PARNS booking system and there are sometimes patients inappropriately left on the system even though a decision has been made by patient and surgeon not to pursue surgery, thus the mortality rate among those waiting may be falsely high.

Finally, the mortality rate generally in Nova Scotia is generally just below 1% (0.97% for 2019) while the mortality rate among those queued for surgery is about 1.7%. The average age of patients waiting for surgery is likely considerably higher than the average age in Nova Scotia (43 years of age) such that the death rate among patients waiting for surgery may be very close to that of an age matched group of Nova Scotians.