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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 7th January 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-L-003

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk



Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 4th December 2020. Your request sought information relating to knee replacement waiting times.

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused huge disruption to NHS services, not just in Swansea Bay but across the UK.

As with all health organisations, we had to suspend non-emergency services and appointments so our hospitals did not become overwhelmed while we cared for those seriously ill with the virus.

Inevitably this has affected waiting times as it has done with all other health boards.

Clearly this is not something any of us would have wanted and we are extremely conscious of the potential consequences for patients.

Since the start of the pandemic we have continued to care for those requiring urgent treatment.

Our hard-working staff have also come up with innovative solutions to protect services, adapt services to continue recognising the existence of the virus and introduce new ones specifically as a result of the virus – there are numerous examples on our website.

As it has become safe and appropriate to do so we have reintroduced many services, often with changes in place to protect patients and staff.



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

Q. What is the waiting time for knee replacement in Swansea Bay?

You clarified on 7th December 2020 that you are looking for the waiting time as at the most recent date available.

For patients who were on the waiting list at 30th November 2020, the average time they had been waiting for a knee replacement was 73 weeks for those patients only. However please be aware that this is not representative of how long a patient may wait for a knee replacement operation. Cases are being prioritised based on clinical urgency and due to constant review of services and temporary suspension of non-urgent surgeries, the waiting time can fluctuate regularly.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

