

1 August 2025

Waiting List Deaths

1. How many people died while on a health service waiting list in your trust area in the 2024/25 year. If possible, provide comparison figures for the previous two years

Fiscal Year	Total number of patients
22/23	826
23/24	769
24/25	714

2. If possible to state, how many of the above deaths were patients on a waiting list for (1) 1 year and over (2) 3 years and over (3) five years and over (4) 10 years and over

Length of time on a waiting list	Total number of patients
1 year and over	849
3 years and over	396
5 years and over	159
10 years and over	<10

Please note:-

- Totals relate to those patients who died whilst on an inpatient or daycase waiting list for treatment/procedure in the Belfast Trust only.
- Due to the wording of question 2, Patients who have been on the waiting list longer will also be included in the lower time category grouping total. e.g. A patient who waited 4 years will have waited 3 years and over as well as 1 year and over.
- Time on waiting list calculated from current waiting list date to the effective waiting list removal date, minus any waiting list suspensions.
- NHS waiting lists can be suspended for several reasons, primarily due to medical unavailability, family commitments, or patient preference. These suspensions, which temporarily remove a patient from the active waiting list, are often due to the patient not being fit for treatment at the time of a scheduled admission or because they have requested a later date.
- Data provided from 6th June 2024 onwards is subject to ongoing validation of the Epic Healthcare computer system.