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Congenital Heart Disease Appointment Delays

In a communication on Social Media, the Lead Nurse for the NW Congenital Heart Diseases network has confirmed that there are significant delays in appointments affecting this service and others. NHS England have advised they do not hold the following information and have advised that I contact each of the regional networks.

Therefore, please provide the following for Congenital Heart Network in your region - This information should be for the years 2022, 2023 & 2024. The information should be separated into Paediatrics and Adult care

1. Percentage of patients seen in line with the appointment schedule agreed with their Cardiologist
2. Percentage seen within 1 months of this schedule
3. Percentage seen within 6 months of this schedule
4. Percentage waiting longer than 12 months of this schedule

Also:

1. A time series of numbers of emergency admissions of these patients from 2010 to the current day (or for as long as records go back for) - again split by paediatrics and adults
2. What are the loss to follow up rates for both adults and paediatrics and what actions are networks taking to address these? Additionally, how many patients (percentage and numbers) lost in transition between the paediatric and adult services?

Response – Adult Services

New referrals for a first Outpatient appointment waiting beyond agreed schedule.

Adult - % of patients on a new urgent waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Year Patient seen	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
2022	28%	12%	2%
2023	17%	26%	15%
2024	41%	5%	2%

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Adult - % of patients on a new routine waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Year Patient seen	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
2022	12%	14%	14%
2023	11%	18%	14%
2024	13%	14%	8%

Information on planned date to be seen is not available once a patient attends their appointment. Below is a snap shot of how many were waiting beyond their date at the end of March each year.

Adult - % of patients on review waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Month Ending	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
Mar-22	12%	11%	22%
Mar-23	6%	5%	14%
Mar-24	9%	3%	3%
Mar-25	16%	4%	2%

Notes:

Information sourced from Belfast Trust Patient Access Information and Encompass Information System based on Specialty Clinics.

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Response - Paediatric Services

New referrals for a first Outpatient appointment waiting beyond agreed schedule.

Paediatrics - % of patients on a new urgent waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Year Patient seen	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
2022	20%	1%	0%
2023	9%	0%	0%
2024	13%	0%	0%

Paediatrics - % of patients on a new routine waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Year Patient seen	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
2022	1%	1%	0%
2023	1%	0%	0%
2024	1%	0%	0%

Information on planned date to be seen is not available once a patient attends their appointment. Below is a snap shot of how many were waiting beyond their date at the end of March each year.

Paediatric - % of patients on review waiting list waiting beyond expected date			
Month Ending	% Over 1 month but not more than 6 months	% Over 6 months but not more than 12 months	% waiting over 12 Months
Mar-22	23%	21%	0.4%
Mar-23	15%	11%	18%
Mar-24	9%	8%	16%
Mar-25	15%	8%	17%

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Data can only be pulled as presented in attached