

9 July 2026

Urgent Dermatology Waiting List

- 1. The total number of patients currently waiting for a first outpatient appointment under the Urgent Dermatology referral pathway.**

Total number of patients: 5,744

- 2. A breakdown of those patients according to the length of time they have been waiting, including the number waiting:**

- **12–24 months – 1330 patients**
- **24–36 months -1369 patients**
- **36–48 months – 976 patients**
- **More than 48 months- 444 patients**

- 3. The longest current waiting time for a patient awaiting a first urgent dermatology outpatient appointment.**

4.8 years

- 4. The average (mean) and median waiting time for patients currently waiting under the urgent dermatology pathway.**

Mean: 2.1 years

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Median: 1.9 years

5. The number of urgent dermatology first outpatient appointments that have taken place in each of the last 12 calendar months.

July 2025- July 2026: 2182 New Urgent Dermatology first outpatient appointments took place.

On average 152 patients seen per month.

6. The number of new urgent dermatology referrals received in each of the last 12 calendar months.

July 2025- July 2026: 3469 urgent referrals received.

On average 290 urgent referrals received per month.

7. The criteria used by the Trust to prioritise urgent dermatology referrals, including whether patients are normally seen in chronological order or whether referrals are continually re-prioritised according to clinical need.

Referrals are prioritised in order of clinical priority and appointed based on 'longest waiter' for each priority. This is filtered by 'days on waiting list' column from work queue.

8. The number of consultant-led urgent dermatology outpatient clinics held in each of the last 12 months.

July 25-July 26: 363 Dermatology New Urgent clinics held. Total of 6 patients in each clinic.

On average 38 new urgent referrals are seen weekly within BHSCT dermatology department.

9. Details of any waiting list initiative, recovery programme or additional capacity currently in place to reduce urgent dermatology waiting times.

- Photo triage hub
- Derm AI
- Advice and guidance pilot
- Waiting ongoing waiting list validation

10. The Trust's target waiting time for an urgent dermatology first outpatient appointment.

6 Weeks

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- 11. The percentage of urgent dermatology referrals that met the Trust's target waiting time during each of the last 12 months.**

July 2025- July 2026: 9%

- 12. If available, the approximate referral month and year that the Trust is currently offering first appointments to for patients referred via the urgent dermatology pathway.**

October 2021

- 13. Copies of any current policy, guidance or standard operating procedure governing the management and prioritisation of urgent dermatology waiting lists.**

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust Dermatology Department manages and prioritises urgent dermatology waiting lists in accordance with regional referral management guidance, Trust waiting list management policies and clinical prioritisation criteria. For more information please visit: [Home - DOH/HSCNI Strategic Planning and Performance Group \(SPPG\)](#)