

04 March 2025

Paediatric Cardiology Data

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting:

1. Pediatric Congenital Cardiology Inpatient Waiting Times for Northern Irish patients: Detailed quarterly data from 2010 to 2024 for children aged 0–16 years. This data will serve as the main variable in my analysis to assess the impact of the All-Island Congenital Heart Disease Network.

2. Additional Pediatric Specialties Waiting Times for Northern Irish patients- Comparative data: Detailed quarterly data from 2010 to 2024 for children aged 0–16 years. To construct a robust synthetic control group, I also require waiting times data for other pediatric specialties available in Northern Ireland during the same timeframe. For example, Paed Orthopaedic, Paediatric Dermatology, Paediatric ENT, Paediatric Neurosurgery, Paediatric Radiology, Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, Paediatric Surgery, Paediatric Urology, Paediatrics. These specialties have been selected as control variables because they are likely to have similar administrative and healthcare delivery characteristics but are unaffected by the CHD Network interventions. The synthetic control method will use this data to create a counterfactual scenario — essentially estimating what the pediatric cardiology waiting times would have been if the CHD Network had not been implemented. This comparison is crucial to isolating the specific impact of the CHD Network from other factors affecting healthcare delivery during the study period.

This analysis is fundamental to my dissertation as it provides empirical evidence on the effectiveness of healthcare policies in a cross-border setting, contributing valuable insights into public health administration and policy formulation.

Data Format Request: I kindly request that all data be provided in Excel or CSV format, as these formats will facilitate rigorous data analysis using statistical software.

Please see the attached excel spreadsheet with the information requested