

**STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE**  
**Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times**  
**December 2018**

The following experimental statistics were published today by NHS England:

Monthly Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times for December 2018.

**The main findings for December 2018 were:**

- 76.7% of patients started treatment within two weeks in December 2018 (763 out of 995 patients started treatment within two weeks)
- The number of incomplete pathways (patients waiting) at the end of December 2018 was 1,015. Of these 590 were waiting for more than two weeks.
- Detailed reports with information by provider and commissioner can be found via the following link:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/eip-waiting-times/>

The back data from December 2015 – December 2018 are also published. The full set of revised data can be found on the above link.

## Notes to Editors

### 1. Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Time Standard

NHS England has outlined a clear commitment to driving a more equal response across mental and physical health. A key element of this is ensuring that people have timely access to evidence-based and effective treatment, a vision outlined in *Achieving Better Access for Mental Health Services by 2020*.

The Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) access and waiting time standard requires that a majority of patients experiencing First Episode Psychosis (FEP) are treated with a NICE-recommended package of care within two weeks of referral. The standard increases from 50% in 2017/18 to 60% by 2020/21, and is 53% in 2018/19. There are therefore two conditions for the standard to be met: a maximum wait of two weeks from referral, and treatment delivered in accordance with NICE guidance.

### 2. Measuring the Standard

The data reported on in this publication cover the waiting time element of the standard.

The collection of data via SDCS is an interim measure. Ultimately data collected by the Health and Social Care Information Centre via the Mental Health Services Data (MHSDS) will supersede this collection once MHSDS data quality is of a sufficient standard.

### 3. Data quality

Providers are continuing to work to improve data quality. Two main issues have been highlighted by providers:

1. Some providers are not able to include referrals made prior to 1st December 2015 due to the way that their patient administration systems had previously captured data.
2. Some providers are only able to include waiting times for referrals made to dedicated EIP teams. These teams currently only provide services to a limited age range.

These issues will impact on reporting of the number of complete and incomplete pathways, with numbers potentially being underreported. This will ultimately impact on performance against the standard.

### 4. Provider and Commissioner data

Commissioner based returns reflect data on a responsible population basis, which is defined as:

- all those patients resident within the CCG boundary; plus
- all patients registered with GPs who are members of the CCG, but are resident in another CCG; minus

- All patients resident in the CCG, but registered with a GP who is a member of another CCG

Provider based returns cover patients for whom English commissioners are responsible.

## 5. Feedback

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times statistics within this Statistical Press Notice and those published on the NHS England website. Please email any comments on this, or any other issues regarding the Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times data and statistics, to: [england.eip-data@nhs.net](mailto:england.eip-data@nhs.net)

## Additional Information

For press enquiries please contact the NHS England media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 825 0959.

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