

**STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE**  
**Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times**  
**September 2019**

The following experimental statistics were published today by NHS England and NHS Improvement:

Monthly Early Intervention in Psychosis Waiting Times for September 2019.

**The main findings for September 2019 were:**

- 79.1% of patients started treatment within two weeks in September 2019 (831 out of 1,051) patients started treatment within two weeks)
- The number of incomplete pathways (patients waiting) at the end of September 2019 was 1,147. Of these 521 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 – September 2019 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 and NHS Improvement have 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 56% in 2019/2020.** 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

Provider – Commissioner data. Provider commissioner publications show activity commissioned by the English NHS broken down by provider and the commissioner responsible for the patient.

## 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 and NHS Improvement media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 825 0959.

Email enquiries should be directed to: [nhsengland.media@nhs.net](mailto:nhsengland.media@nhs.net)

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) statistician with overall responsibility for the data in this report is:

Matt Whitston  
Performance Analysis Team  
NHS England and NHS Improvement  
Room 5E15, Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UE  
Email: [england.eip-data@nhs.net](mailto:england.eip-data@nhs.net)

