

# Percentage of patients whose surgery was completed within the provincial target wait time

## Alternate Name\*

Percentage of patients who had their surgery completed within the target wait time

## INDICATOR DESCRIPTION

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### Description\*

This indicator measures the percentage of patients whose surgery was completed within the access target for the surgical service area/surgery being reported. This wait time represents the time, in days, from when the patient and surgeon decides to proceed with surgery to having the surgery completed. In this case, the higher the percentage completed the better. The surgical service area/surgery reported in Measuring Up includes general surgeries, cancer surgeries, hip and knee replacement surgeries.

Patients are assigned a priority level for their surgery by the physician based on clinical evidence.

### HQO Reporting tool/product

Public reporting

### Dimension\*

Timely

### Type\*

Process

## DEFINITION AND SOURCE INFORMATION

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### Unit of Measurement\*

Percentage

### Calculation Methods\*

Numerator divided by the denominator times 100

### Numerator (short description i.e. not inclusions/exclusions)\*

Number of patients in the denominator whose surgery or procedure was completed within the provincial target wait time.

### Denominator (short description i.e. not inclusions/exclusions)\*

Percentage of patients whose surgery was completed within the provincial target wait time

<http://indicatorlibrary.hqontario.ca/Indicator/Summary/Percentage-within-target-surgical-wait-time-2/EN>

All patients whose surgery or procedure was completed and met the criteria below to be included.

**Adjustment (risk, age/sex standardization)- generalized**

None

**Data Source**

Wait Time Information System (WTIS)

**Data provided to HQO by**

Cancer Care Ontario (CCO)

**Reported Levels of comparability /stratifications (defined)**

Corporation

Province

Priority level

Time

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**OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

**Caveats and Limitations**

1. This indicator is collected for patients who have undergone their surgery. That is, patients who are still waiting are not included in the calculation. 2. This indicator is reported not at the surgeon level but rather at the level of the facility where the procedure took place. 3. Ninety among 114 surgical facilities in Ontario report surgical wait times to the WTIS; the remaining 24 facilities do not receive wait time funding for reporting and so do not report wait times. 4. Hospitals with small volumes will be more severely impacted by extreme waits. For example, an unusually long or short wait time for a single patient in a reporting period for hospitals that do not treat a lot of patients (e.g., a small hospital performing cataract surgery) will have a greater impact on the percentage of patients who underwent surgery within the target time. 5. Since Wait Time data is reported at the hospital corporation or facility level, facilities with multiple sites will be reported together even though data is collected at each site. Wait Times may also vary by surgeon which will not be apparent in this data as it is reported at the institution level rather than individual surgeon. 6. There are other factors that affect wait times for a surgical procedure or diagnostic exam that do not relate to a hospital's efficiency, to a particular doctor or the availability of resources. They include: a. Patient Choice – a patient with a non-life-threatening condition may choose a non-surgical treatment or may decide to delay treatment for personal or family reasons to a more convenient time. b. Patient Condition – a patient's condition may need to improve before the surgery or exam takes place. c. Follow-up Care – a patient who has an existing condition may be pre-booked for a follow-up treatment or exam a long time in advance. d. Treatment Complexity – a patient with special requirements may need specific equipment or a certain kind of facility and there is a delay until these can be scheduled.

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**TAGS**

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Acute Care/Hospital

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whose surgery was  
completed within the  
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Process

Wait Times

Timely

Wait Time Information System (WTIS)

## PUBLISH

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### PUBLISH DATETIME\*

20/11/2018 15:36:00