

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 5.17

Output Number: Opening Statement

Date: 15 June 2026

From: J Davis

To: Hon Steve Edgington MLA

Portfolio: Health

Agency: Department of Health

Subject: Elective surgery wait times

QUESTION:

Can you please give the breakdown on wait times by specialty and category for elective surgery?

ANSWER:

Percentage of elective surgeries by specialty, performed within the timeframe required for each clinical urgency category, for the 2025-26 reporting period (to March 2026).

	% Treated in Time		
Speciality	Category 1 - Urgent (Within 30 days)	Category 2 - Semi Urgent (Within 90 days)	Category 3 – Non Urgent (Within 365 days)
Cardio-thoracic surgery	100%	75%	-*
General surgery	77%	67%	84%
Gynaecology surgery	85%	62%	87%
Neurosurgery	85%	38%	88%
Ophthalmology surgery	77%	27%	44%
Orthopaedic surgery	80%	64%	54%
Other	90%	100%	-*
Otolaryngology head and neck surgery	83%	53%	46%
Plastic and reconstructive surgery	77%	65%	74%
Urological surgery	47%	55%	64%
Vascular surgery	73%	59%	86%
Total	75%	52%	59%

-* No patients on elective surgery waitlist for the respective specialty and urgency category.