

Request

The amount of people who are currently on the waiting list for Orthodontic services, referred by WHSSB?

The perceived time scale before these people will be seen?

The current waiting list for Orthodontic Services in all the other the Health and Social Service Boards in Northern Ireland?

When these people will be likely to be seen for treatment?

Response

1. At 31 December 2007, the latest position when official figures are available, there were 115 patients who resided in the Western Board area were waiting for an initial outpatient assessment to see an orthodontics consultant or member of his/her team.

2 & 4 The ministerial target, to be assessed at 31 March 2008, states that no patients waiting for an outpatient assessment must be waiting longer than 13 weeks. At 31 December 2007, 10 patients who resided in the Western Board area were waiting longer than 13 weeks for an initial outpatient assessment to see an orthodontics consultant or member of his her team.

3. The number of patients waiting for an initial orthodontics outpatient appointment at 31 December 2007, broken down by Health Board of Residence is provided below:

Quarter	Health Board of Residence	Total Waiting
31 December 2007	Northern	84
31 December 2007	Southern	111
31 December 2007	Eastern	122
31 December 2007	Western	115
31 December 2007	Other	1
31 December 2007	N Ireland	433

At 31 December 2007, no patient was waiting for inpatient admission for orthodontic treatment.