

Fact Sheet

Release of the Specialist Outpatient Waiting Time Report

Each quarter, the Specialist Outpatient Waiting Time Report (Report) will be available on the SA Health website. Visit the SA Health website to view the Report.

What has been reported?

The Report provides median and maximum waiting times for reported specialist clinics in metropolitan hospitals for patients that are routine or non-urgent or are on a waiting list and have not been given an appointment. These patients are considered 'unscheduled'. Patients who have been given an appointment do not appear in the Report.

All urgent (category 1) patients are given an appointment and are therefore not added to the outpatient waiting list. This is consistent with previous reports.

What is 'median' waiting time and why has it been included?

The median is the half-way point (50%) of the waiting times information between the longest and shortest waiting times. Therefore, 50% of patients would be waiting less and 50% would be waiting more than the median waiting times provided in the Report.

The median waiting times are considered a more accurate measure because some people will have very short waiting time or very long waiting time and this can make the average measure less representative of actual time most people will wait for an appointment.

How many people are waiting the maximum time?

In most cases, the maximum waiting time represents the time one individual patient has waited as at the date of the Report.

Where do I go for more information?

For more information speak with your doctor or visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/OutpatientWaitingTimes

For more information

Operational Service Improvement and Demand Management
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