

Request & Response

1. If I were to be referred to your hospital today for a routine dermatology appointment, please indicate the date today and the first available routine new patient appointment (suggested addition).
If a patient was referred to us on 20 December, they would have been waiting 13 weeks to be seen in the Tumour Clinic (Appointment on Tuesday 21 March 2017) and 16 weeks to be seen in the General clinic (Appointment on Tuesday 11 April 2017). All referrals letters are triaged by a consultant and appointments are brought forward if clinically needed.
2. For routine referrals, what is the typical waiting time for a new patient appointment for a patient presenting with mild to moderate plaque psoriasis.
For a patient with mild to moderate plaque psoriasis, the routine waiting time would be 16 weeks for a General clinic appointment.
3. For urgent referrals, what is the typical time for an otherwise fit 80 year old with a four week history of blistering, suggestive of bullous pemphigoid.
All urgent referrals (fit 80 year old with a four week history of blistering, suggestive of bullous pemphigoid) should go via the GP who would contact our on-call Registrar who may be able to see the patient the next day or certainly that same week.
4. If I were to be referred to your hospital today for an urgent dermatology appointment, please indicate the date today and the first available urgent new appointment.
All urgent referrals are triaged by one of our consultants and if deemed appropriate (depending on diagnosis, symptoms etc) the patient can be seen that same week or the following week.
5. In 2015, how many dermatology referrals were inappropriately sent to secondary care or community services for excluded skin condition criteria?
There are very few inappropriate referrals as the local GPs know the service well and follow CCG/PCT/DOS (Directory of Services) guidance on referral criteria. Actual numbers unknown but probably only a couple of percent.
6. In the year 2015/16 how many non-2 week wait dermatology referrals did you receive and how many breached the 18-week target.
438 non 2 week wait patients breached the 18 week pathway out of 21,874 patients seen in the year 2015-2016.