

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13th JULY 2020**

Question

“Will the Minister –

- (a) provide monthly figures of all the private and non-private medical operations, listed by type of operation, carried out on Jersey residents during the 12-month period from June 2019 to June 2020, with the same data provided for the previous 12-month period (June 2018 to June 2019) for comparison;
- (b) state how many elective operations have been cancelled or postponed because of the Covid-19 crisis;
- (c) provide figures detailing the current backlog of operations, including day surgery and repeat appointments;
- (d) state what policy, if any, is used in determining and administering waiting lists and advise how the waiting list for elective surgery has been monitored and how it has changed since this time last year; and
- (e) advise whether any dedicated resources will be allocated to catch up on elective surgery procedures and how long he anticipates it will take to catch up and return to the situation in respect of such procedures as it stood this time last year?”

Answer

- (a) Please see the appendix.
- (b) Routine procedures were postponed due to COVID-19, rather than cancelled. ‘Urgent’ and ‘soon’ procedures continued to take place. Approximately 470 ‘routine’ elective procedures were postponed. Routine elective day surgery procedures re-started in June 2020 and routine elective main theatre procedures re-started in July 2020.
- (c) (i) There are currently 2,693 patients* awaiting inpatient procedures, treatment or diagnostic tests on the elective inpatient waiting list. Prior to COVID-19, there were 2,359 patients on this waiting list.
(ii) We assume that repeat appointments relate to outpatient activity. There are currently 7,894 patients* awaiting a new outpatient appointment. This is lower than pre-COVID-19 and is due to fewer GP referrals and a gradual reduction due to ‘urgent’ and ‘soon’ appointments continuing to be held.
- (d) Patients are selected for outpatient appointments and inpatient procedures, treatment or diagnostic tests according to clinical priority (categorised as ‘urgent’, ‘soon’ or ‘routine’). Patients of the same clinical priority are appointed in chronological order i.e. the patients who have been waiting longest will be seen first.

As part of the waiting list initiatives that have been developed over the last nine months, a new Access Policy is currently in draft status. This policy details the methodology and tools used to administer the waiting lists, including the use of the new Patient Tracking List (PTL). It also includes the principles used to prioritise patients for outpatient or inpatient treatment/assessment. The intention is that this policy will be approved by 27th July 2020. In addition, monthly waiting list data should be published on the Government of Jersey website on 20th July 2020.

- (e) A new theatre timetable has been created to address an imbalance between demand and capacity. There is a particular focus on general surgery where we see some of our longest waits and highest number of patients waiting. This will allow us to address the impact of COVID-19 as quickly as possible and will result in an overall more efficient use of theatre time.

The timetable will be reviewed again in six months using demand and capacity modelling to assess whether further changes are required.

In order to support the new timetable, a 4th general surgeon and a 3rd gastroenterologist are to be recruited.

*An individual patient may be counted more than once if they are on the waiting list for multiple specialties. Therefore, this number does not equate to unique people.

Appendix

Public procedures by specialty and month for the last 12 months (01/07/2019 – 30/06/2020)

PUBLIC												
Procedure Specialty	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20
Anaesthetics	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	2
Cardiology	14	7	16	11	16	8	16	15	6	5	7	17
Community Health Services Dental	10	2	8	9	4	4	4	8	14	0	0	1
ENT	66	54	81	84	67	62	73	65	49	14	32	55
Endoscopy	43	36	37	55	39	33	36	30	35	0	0	53
General Surgery	103	75	77	89	90	76	84	86	74	33	35	72
Gynaecology	65	42	46	71	57	44	58	58	44	12	9	44
Nephrology	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Obstetrics	2	0	1	4	2	2	0	3	4	24	28	23
Ophthalmology	65	24	69	90	56	48	78	59	40	3	7	30
Oral Surgery	26	10	5	16	0	3	2	2	0	0	1	0
Pain Management	42	28	36	37	35	33	49	37	24	0	5	18
Trauma & Orthopaedics	135	86	124	153	123	110	129	105	78	21	19	57
Urology	32	34	38	46	38	25	41	35	26	12	11	41
Breast Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident & Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maxillofacial Surgery	33	29	38	52	46	40	49	49	33	1	4	35
Paediatric Trauma & Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cardiac Surgery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Paediatric Urology	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Radiology	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	642	428	577	720	577	491	619	558	429	127	161	448

Public procedures by specialty and month for the previous 12-month period (01/07/2018 – 30/06/2019)

PUBLIC												
Procedure Specialty	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19
Anaesthetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	1
Cardiology	13	6	13	15	16	7	13	14	9	8	22	11
Community Health Services Dental	3	5	1	8	2	8	0	2	8	5	8	0
ENT	58	71	78	65	76	61	62	64	89	67	66	86
Endoscopy	40	33	35	65	45	28	44	26	42	49	51	29
General Surgery	102	72	81	97	102	72	77	91	88	82	93	96
Gynaecology	53	34	48	50	47	31	69	47	50	51	58	49
Nephrology	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Obstetrics	13	12	14	8	19	8	10	3	2	2	1	0
Ophthalmology	40	81	73	97	69	61	81	66	58	58	54	70
Oral Surgery	42	32	34	40	44	27	57	43	30	10	19	16
Pain Management	30	39	34	41	38	24	35	32	40	21	31	31
Trauma & Orthopaedics	135	100	126	161	129	99	141	133	134	129	139	130
Urology	25	42	31	32	52	22	33	28	33	34	38	29
Breast Surgery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident & Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maxillofacial Surgery	0	0	1	2	0	1	5	11	32	22	23	37
Paediatric Trauma & Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Cardiac Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Paediatric Urology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0
Radiology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	555	530	569	685	639	450	627	567	619	544	604	589

Private procedures by specialty and month for the last 12 months (01/07/2019 – 30/06/2020)

PRIVATE												
Procedure Specialty	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20
Anaesthetics	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiology	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0
Community Health Services Dental	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ENT	16	26	15	22	29	12	22	19	13	2	3	3
Endoscopy	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	8	0	0	1
General Surgery	35	18	28	40	41	21	32	22	20	0	4	14
Gynaecology	23	14	15	21	15	23	28	29	18	1	5	9
Nephrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obstetrics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Ophthalmology	29	12	29	25	38	24	30	24	12	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0
Pain Management	19	10	17	21	13	15	16	17	13	1	0	2
Trauma & Orthopaedics	38	20	30	37	33	36	43	31	28	0	4	12
Urology	17	3	11	3	11	5	18	8	5	0	0	5
Breast Surgery	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident & Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MaxilloFacial Surgery	2	5	9	9	6	6	9	8	8	0	0	2
Paediatric Trauma & Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
Cardiac Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paediatric Urology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Radiology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	179	113	158	181	188	146	202	161	132	4	18	50

Private procedures by specialty and month for the previous 12-month period (01/07/2018 – 30/06/2019)

PRIVATE												
Procedure Specialty	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19
Anaesthetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiology	2	2	2	4	1	0	0	1	1	3	1	3
Community Health Services Dental	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ENT	15	16	8	22	14	17	28	10	28	19	23	19
Endoscopy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
General Surgery	29	29	36	48	54	24	49	30	36	25	33	35
Gynaecology	17	22	26	24	22	17	24	24	21	33	27	18
Nephrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obstetrics	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmology	12	16	25	19	24	20	37	23	20	28	23	19
Oral Surgery	3	10	4	8	7	7	7	7	0	2	1	3
Pain Management	8	22	14	21	24	14	12	18	18	23	18	13
Trauma & Orthopaedics	54	17	47	51	31	36	49	31	41	30	29	30
Urology	6	3	3	11	10	6	7	10	6	2	8	6
Breast Surgery	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accident & Emergency	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MaxilloFacial Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	7	7	6
Paediatric Trauma & Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1
Cardiac Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paediatric Urology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Radiology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	146	139	167	208	188	141	213	156	178	177	171	154