

Ref. No: FOI0024
Date: 10/07/2023
Subject: Mastectomy reconstruction

REQUEST & RESPONSE

This request is for STHK ONLY

1a) Divided by month, how long the waiting list is for getting a breast reconstruction after a mastectomy from January 2016 to July 2023 (or the most up-to-date data)?

Breast reconstruction is not being performed as a treatment for cancer therefore not recorded on our Somerset system

As at July 2023, the waiting list is over 18 months for surgery for routine breast reconstruction surgery.

1b) Please divide this information according to different types of breast reconstruction i.e. implant, LD flap, DIEP flap

DIEPs wait 18 months. Implants are often done within 6 months. LDs are more of a salvage operation these days and not the first choice for reconstruction.

2) Divided by month, how many people are on the waiting list for breast reconstruction after a mastectomy from January 2016 to July 2023 (or the most up-to-date data)?

As at July 2023, there are approx. 258 patients waiting for breast reconstruction after a mastectomy

3a) What date did the trust stop performing reconstructions at the same time as mastectomies during the pandemic?

3b) What date did the trust start offering reconstructions at the same time as mastectomies again?

Response to 3a & 3b

As regards STOPPING immediate recon during Pandemic 23 March 2020 and Restarted immediate DIEPS in June 2020. We were the second in the country to restart after Norwich (2 days later)