

Tullamore man 150,000th patient to be treated by NTPF

AN 84-year-old Tullamore man is the 150,000th patient treated by the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF). Overall waiting times for operations have reduced during this time from two to five years in 2002 to an average of 2.8 months today.

The Fund's 150,000th patient is 84 year old Mr John Keegan from Ballydrohid, Tullamore, who had been on a waiting list for prostate surgery since March 2009. He received his operation at St. Francis Hospital in Mullingar in August 2009.

In 2002, the NTPF helped a total of 1,920 patients. Patients from all over the country have been facilitated by the Fund at this time. The first patient was a lady from Dublin, who had her operation in a Dublin hospital in June 2002. She had been waiting four and a half years for her operation.

Operations provided by the NTPF have covered a wide range of procedures and specialties, with ENT (26%), Orthopaedic Surgery (16%), Ophthalmology (13%) and General Surgery (10%) being the specialties in which the Fund has arranged the highest number of treatments.

During 2009 the Fund expects to arrange faster treatment for a total of 30,000 public patients.



Mr John Keegan