

## **September Waiting List Publication**

### **NTPF also publishes an update on the 2018 Inpatient Daycase Action Plan**

There were 1,471 fewer public patients waiting for an appointment for elective surgery at the end of September compared to August according to the latest public hospital waiting list data published today by the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF), which shows that the number waiting on the active Inpatient / Daycase list was 72,718.

The number waiting for a GI Endoscopy appointment also reduced from 17,881 to 17,528.

The number of patients waiting for a first hospital outpatient consultation increased by 962 in September to 515,547.

According to the waiting list data published by the NTPF, 28,957 patients have been given a date for their Inpatient / Daycase or Endoscopy procedure.

A total of 71,582 patients are recorded in the Planned Procedure category and 47,596 of these patients have indicative dates in the future. These are patients who have already had treatment and require further treatment at a future date (e.g. a patient who has had a scope may require surveillance monitoring scopes in the future) and have been assigned indicative dates for treatment. These indicative dates are determined by a clinician and treatment before these dates would not be appropriate. As more patients are initially seen and given a follow-up appointment for ongoing treatment or surveillance the number of patients on the Planned Procedure list increases.

A total of 11,769 patients were classified as suspended. Patients who are temporarily unfit or unable to attend due to clinical or personal/social reasons are categorised as 'Suspension'. The Suspension category is also used where patients are being treated through various Insourcing or Outsourcing Initiatives.

The NTPF also published an Update on the 2018 Inpatient Daycase Action Plan

The Update shows that since peaking at the end of July 2017, the number of patients waiting on the active Inpatient / Daycase (IPDC) waiting list has reduced by 16% to 72,718, with 13,393 fewer patients waiting at the end of September 2018.

A total of 15,456 people on the Inpatient / Day Case waiting list have accepted offers of treatment from the NTPF this year, contributing to the overall fall in numbers waiting. Notably, the number of

patients waiting more than 9 months for treatment has reduced by 32%, with 8,963 fewer patients waiting than at the end of July 2017.

The NTPF has stated it will arrange Inpatient / Day Case treatments for a total of 20,000 patients in 2018, including 13,800 treatments across the seven highest volume procedure categories which include cataracts, angiograms, skin lesions, hip/knee replacements, varicose veins, tonsillectomies and cystoscopies. By year end, all patients waiting more than nine months for one of these procedures, who are clinically suitable for outsourcing, will have received an offer of treatment. A total of 12,580 public patients waiting for one of these seven high volume procedures have accepted offers of NTPF funded treatment so far this year.

Commenting, NTPF Chief Executive Liam Sloyan said: “The number of patients on the waiting list for elective surgery has been steadily falling over the past 14 months, with almost 1,500 fewer patients waiting for treatment at the end of September than at the end of August. Working with the HSE and the Department of Health, the NTPF has been very active tackling Inpatient / Day Case waiting lists this year. We have made a particular impact in reducing the numbers of patients waiting for the highest volume procedures and reducing the number of people waiting more than nine months for their procedure, achieving a 32% decrease since July 2017. Real progress has been made for public patients and the NTPF will use its increased €75m 2019 budget efficiently and effectively to build on this work next year.”

**Ends**

**12<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

Further information from:

Tom Delaney, Gibney Communications 01 6610402 / 087 7437533

**Additional Notes re 2019 Budget**

- The NTPF has been allocated €75m in 2019, an increase of €20m on 2018.
- In 2019, the Fund will arrange treatment for 25,000 patients on the active Inpatient / Daycase (IPDC) waiting list, 5,000 Gastrointestinal Endoscopies and 40,000 first-time outpatient consultant appointments.