

Surgical Wait Times in Saskatchewan

Wait times for Surgical Procedures, All Health Regions, All specialties (January – June 2009)

- 45% of patients had their surgery completed within 3 weeks, 74% within 3 months, and 94% within a year.
- Median wait time: 50% of surgeries were performed within 4 weeks, 85% within 6 months.
- In Regina Qu'Appelle, 71% of patients had surgery within 3 months, and 92% within one year.
- In Prairie North, 90% of patients had surgery within 3 months, and 99% within one year.
- In Five Hills, 59% of patients had surgery within 3 weeks, 88% within 3 months, and 100% within one year.

Saskatchewan Surgical Wait Times compared to Pan Canadian Benchmarks

- **Hip Replacements** (emergency cases excluded): Pan Canadian Benchmark: 26 weeks (182 days). In Saskatchewan: 58% of cases performed within 26 weeks. Median wait time: 150 days.

This has improved substantially. Percent of cases that had already waited longer than 26 weeks: March 31, 2004: 57%. June 30, 2009: 30%.

- **Cataract Surgery – High Risk Patients** (emergency cases excluded):
Pan Canadian Benchmark: 16 weeks (112 days).
In Saskatchewan: 90% of cases performed within 16 weeks (86% in Regina). Median wait time is 30 days.
Percent of cases that had already waited longer than 16 weeks:
March 31, 2005: 26%. June 30, 2009: 16%.

- **Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery** (emergency cases excluded):
Pan Canadian Benchmark for Level 1: 2 weeks (14 days).
In Saskatchewan: Level I, 95% of cases performed within 2 weeks. In Regina, 100% of cases performed within 2 weeks. Median wait time: 1 day. 90% of surgeries done within 6 days.

Pan Canadian Benchmark for Level 2 : 26 weeks (182 days).

In Saskatchewan: Level II - 85% of cases performed within 6 weeks. In Regina, 91%. Median wait time: 9 days. 90% of surgeries completed within 88 days.

cope491

Source: Saskatchewan Surgical Care Network (www.sasksurgery.ca)

CUPE Research October 29, 2009