

Wait Time Information – Colonoscopy

Q: What is a colonoscopy?

A colonoscopy is a procedure performed by a trained doctor who uses a colonoscope (a long, flexible instrument about ½ inch in diameter) to examine the large intestine (colon and rectum). It is often used to evaluate gastrointestinal symptoms, such as changes in bowel habits, rectal and intestinal bleeding, abdominal pain, or to screen individuals for colorectal polyps and cancer.

Q: Where will I be referred to have this procedure?

Ask your family doctor/specialist where you can have your procedure done, as these procedures are performed in the following hospitals:

Eastern Zones

General Hospital - Health Sciences Centre - St. John's

St. Clare's Mercy Hospital - St. John's

Carbonear General Hospital - Carbonear

Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre - Burin

Dr. G.B. Cross Memorial Hospital - Clarenville

Central Zone

James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre - Gander

Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre - Grand Falls-Windsor

Western Zone

Western Memorial Regional Hospital - Corner Brook

Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital - Stephenville

Labrador-Grenfell Zone

Labrador Health Centre - Happy Valley-Goose Bay

Labrador West Health Centre- Labrador City

Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital - St. Anthony

Q: How are wait times measured?

For this procedure, the wait time is measured from when you and your doctor decide to proceed with procedure to when the procedure is completed.

Q: What is the benchmark wait time for colonoscopy?

There is no national benchmark for this procedure.

Table 1: Urgent Colonoscopy Wait Times for Q1 (April 1 – June 30, 2024-25)

Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services	Number of Urgent Colonoscopy Procedures	5 out of 10 patients had procedure within this number of days	9 out of 10 patients had procedure within this number of days	Number of No-Shows
Zone, Hospital				
Eastern				
Health Sciences Centre	47	11	67	0
St. Clare's Mercy Hospital	48	12	35	≤ 5
Carbonear General Hospital	92	7	15	≤ 5
Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre	DS	DS	DS	0
Dr. G.B. Cross Memorial Hospital	41	9	18	≤ 5
Central				
James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre	33	9	15	≤ 5
Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre	64	15	14	≤ 5
Western				
Western Memorial Regional Hospital	51	11	24	≤ 5
Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital	50	13	28	0
Labrador-Grenfell				
Labrador Health Centre	13	45	62	≤ 5
Labrador West Health Centre	NV	NV	NV	0
Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital	13	8	9	0

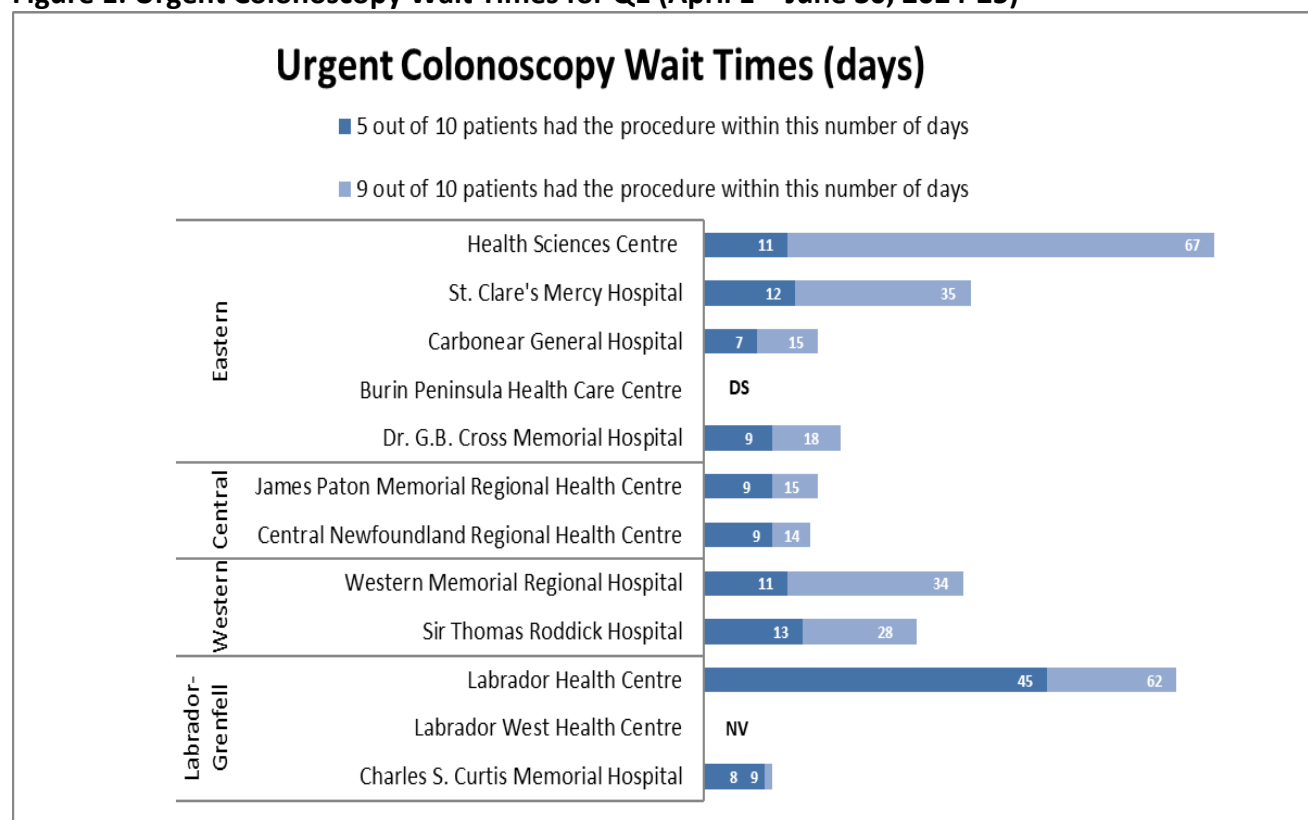
Source: Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services (NLHS), Newfoundland and Labrador

DS: Data Suppression – This indicates that a hospital performed 5 or less cases during the reporting period. To protect patient privacy, wait times associated with these small volumes will not be reported.

NV: No Volume – This indicates that a hospital did not perform this service during the reporting period, or that zero cases were carried out.

Date: November 25, 2024

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