



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Health and Community Services

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 Health

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 Health

James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre - Gander

Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre - Grand Falls-Windsor

Western Health

Western Memorial Regional Hospital - Corner Brook

Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital - Stephenville

Labrador-Grenfell Health

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 Q4 (January 1 – March 31, 2022-2023)

Regional Health Authority	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
Hospital				
Eastern				
Health Sciences Centre	49	12	35	≤ 5
St. Clare's Mercy Hospital	76	17	35	≤ 5
Carbonear General Hospital	70	6	14	4
Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre	14	6	15	0
Dr. G.B. Cross Memorial Hospital	38	7	28	0
Central				
James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre	36	13	19	≤ 5
Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre	74	11	22	≤ 5
Western				
Western Memorial Regional Hospital	57	12	18	0
Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital	9	18	64	0
Labrador-Grenfell				
Labrador Health Centre	27	63	88	0
Labrador West Health Centre	9	11	15	≤ 5
Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital	22	11	17	0

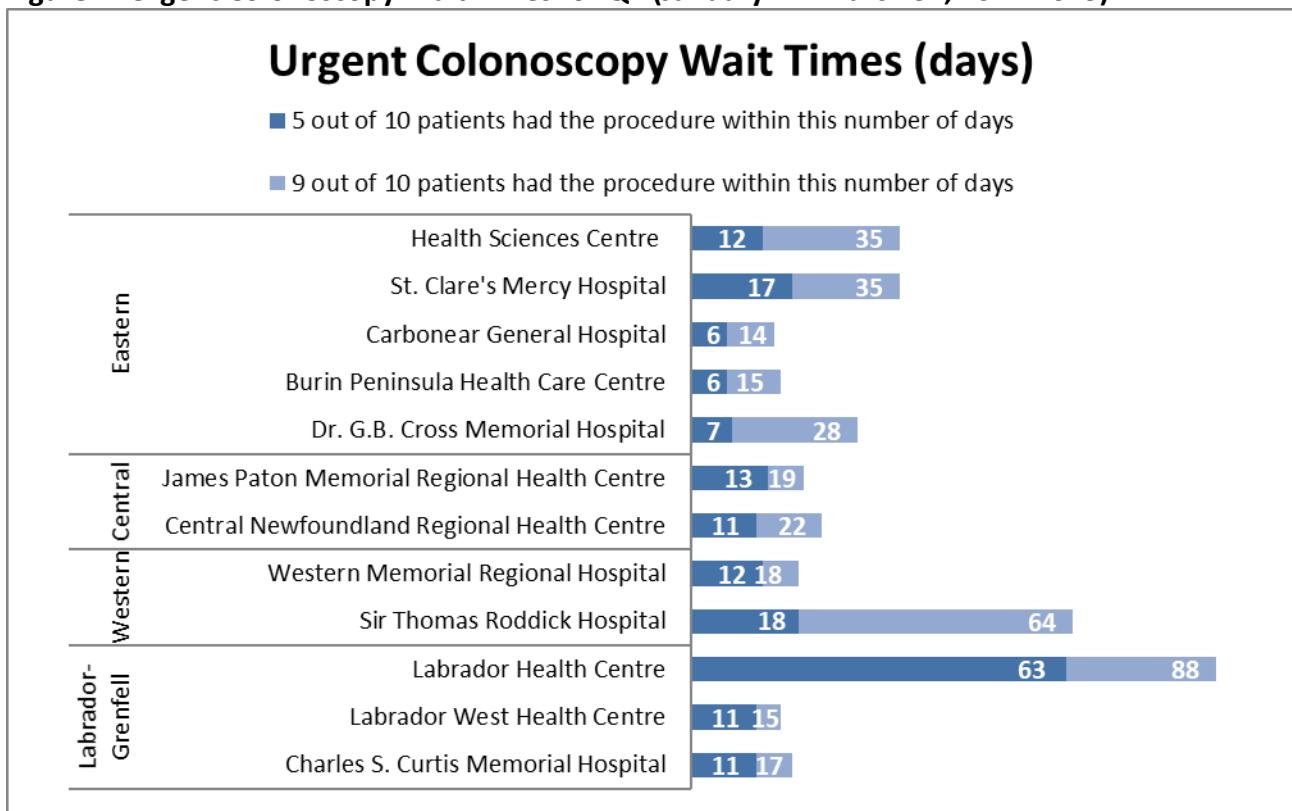
Source: Regional Health Authorities, Newfoundland and Labrador

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: October 15, 2023

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