



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

Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital - 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, 2013-2014)

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				
<b>Eastern</b>				
Health Sciences Centre	90	14	55	≤ 5
St. Clare's Mercy Hospital	84	18	72	≤ 5
Carbonear General Hospital	45	29	50	≤ 5
Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre	27	6	10	≤ 5
Dr. G.B. Cross Memorial Hospital	71	12	33	≤ 5
<b>Central</b>				
James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre	80	6	19	≤ 5
Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre	161	9	20	≤ 5
<b>Western</b>				
Western Memorial Regional Hospital	58	15	42	≤ 5
Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital	DS	DS	DS	DS
<b>Labrador-Grenfell</b>				
Labrador Health Centre	DS	DS	DS	DS
Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital	8	12	17	0
Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital	27	10	28	≤ 5

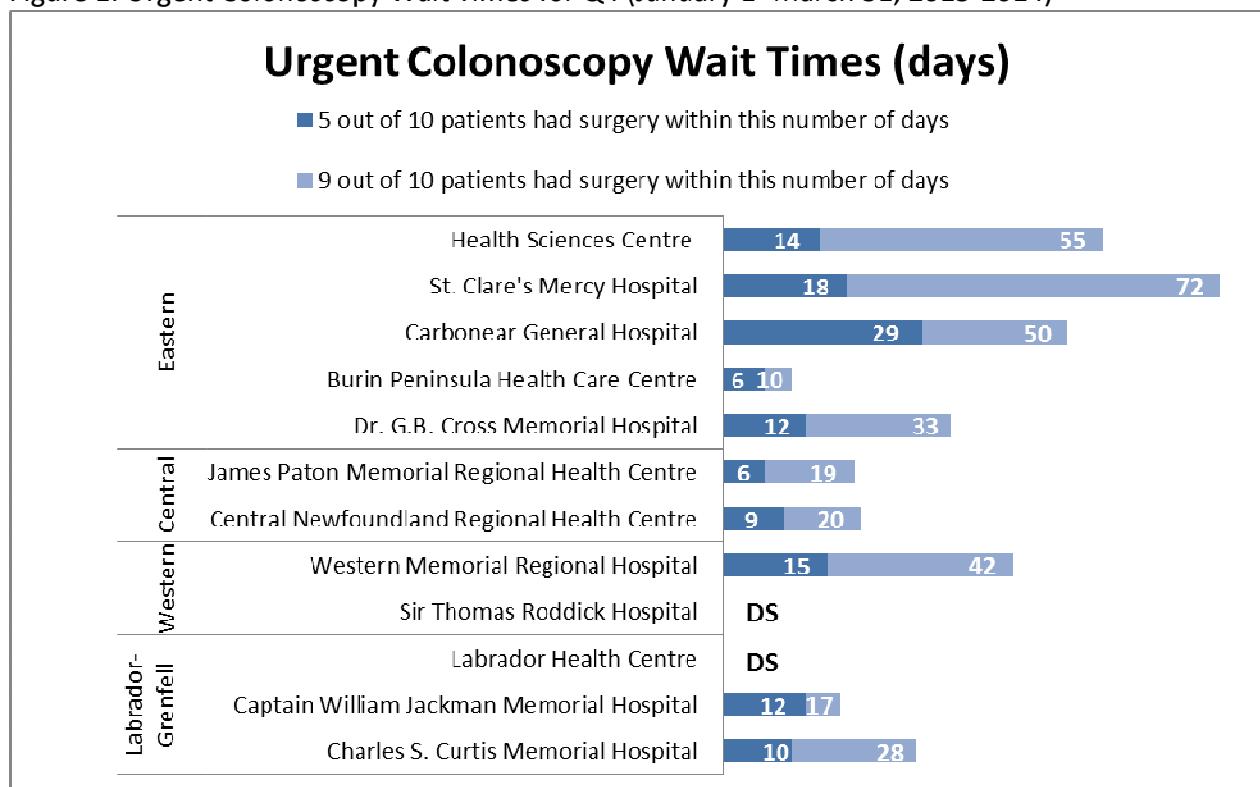
Source: Regional Health Authorities, Newfoundland and Labrador

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: June 19, 2014

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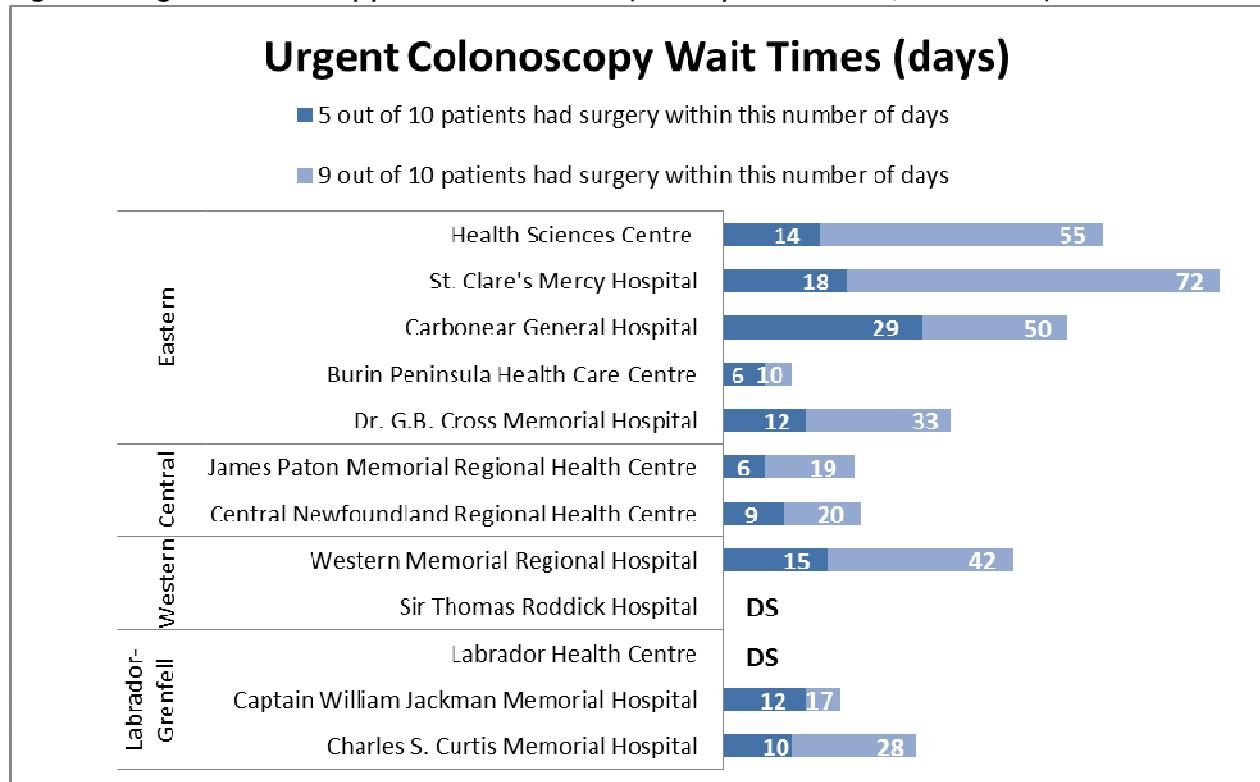
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