

## Guidance for completion of CDS survey

You must complete a Community Dental Services (CDS) survey for each CDS contract you hold.

Data collection will be requested every quarter and we will collect information on the following services:

- CDS
- sedation
- general anaesthetic (excludes IMOS)

### Purpose of data collection

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) requires you to complete the survey to help them:

- understand CDS services clinical capacity
- waiting times for patients
- look at the backlog of care and the restoration of NHS dental services

### Collection dates for 2024-25

You must submit data available in the month prior to the collection period. For example, the data you submit in October 2024 should be the data for September 2024, or your nearest complete month

<b>Data collection window</b>	<b>CDS data to submit</b>
1 October to 14 October 2024	Sep-2024
2 January to 15 January 2025	Dec-2024
1 April to 14 April 2025	Mar- 2025

The survey will close at 11:59pm on the closing dates

## Survey questions and notes

A description of the survey questions is below.

In the questions:

- Adult – references to ‘adults’ relate to special care patients
- Waiting list – a patient is considered ‘waiting’ as soon as they have been accepted for assessment / appointment.

Survey Question	Guidance (June 2022)
Number of patients waiting for a first assessment (Adults)	Enter <b>latest available</b> number of adult patients waiting for first assessment
Number of patients waiting for a first assessment (Paeds)	Enter <b>latest available</b> number of paediatric patients waiting for first assessment
Number of patients assessed and waiting for a first appointment for treatment (Adults)	Enter <b>current</b> numbers for adult patients who have been assessed and are waiting for treatment
Number of patients assessed and waiting for a first appointment for treatment (Paeds)	Enter <b>current</b> numbers for paediatric patients who have been assessed and are waiting for treatment
Average waiting time for patients first appointment for an assessment (Adults)	Enter <b>current average</b> waiting time for adult patients still on the waiting list between date of referral and date of first appointment for an assessment
Average waiting time for patients first appointment for an assessment (Paeds)	Enter <b>current average</b> waiting time for paediatric patients still on the waiting list between date of referral and date of first appointment for an assessment
Average waiting time for patients first treatment appointment (Adults)	Enter <b>current average</b> waiting time for adult patients between date of referral and date of first appointment for treatment
Average waiting time for patients first treatment appointment (Paeds)	Enter <b>current average</b> waiting time for paediatric patients between date of referral and date of first appointment for treatment
Percentage of patients who receive and begin treatment within 18 weeks of referral	The latest figures available for percentage of patient who receive treatment within 18 weeks of referral (both adult and child patients)

Survey Question	Guidance (June 2022)
What is the longest waiting time for an assessment	<p>Enter the latest figure available across the service delivered from the time of referral.</p> <p>If both special care and paed's treatments are delivered, please enter the longest waiting time regardless of the patient group.</p>
What is the longest waiting time for treatment	<p>Enter the latest figure available across the service delivered from the time of referral.</p> <p>If both special care and paed's treatments are delivered, please enter the longest waiting time regardless of the patient group.</p>
What proportion of pre-pandemic clinical capacity do you estimate you are currently operating at	Add as percentage figure at the time the survey is being completed
How is the service prioritising patients for assessment and treatment?	Free text box
Additional Information	Free text box to provide any additional information or clarification notes for the responses provided.

[Read more information around referral to treatment \(RTT\) on the NHS website.](#)