

WAIT TIME TARGETS

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Ontario is establishing the most aggressive wait time access targets for general, orthopaedic and ophthalmic surgeries in the country.

Wait time access targets are the optimal length of time within which a patient should receive treatment. The targets are based on an assessment of the patient's condition and urgency for care. These wait time targets were developed with the help of clinical experts. The Wait Time Information System incorporates these targets and priority classifications.

GENERAL SURGERY TARGETS

General surgery is described as surgical procedures performed to treat benign conditions of the digestive, endocrine and lymphatic system. These also include benign breast surgery and the removal of lumps, bumps and cysts.

Priority Level	General Surgery Priority Descriptions	Access Target
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate – emergency surgery required 	Within 24 hours
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constant, frequent or severe pain/symptoms (biological, psychological); Significantly impacts ability to perform usual activities; High probability of disease progression with morbidity that might affect function or life expectancy; Recurring unscheduled visits i.e. ED/primary care physician/surgeon 	Within 4 weeks
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild or occasional pain/symptoms (biological, psychological); Minimally or moderately impacts ability to perform usual activities; Low probability of disease progression with morbidity that might affect function or life expectancy; Minimal unscheduled visits i.e. ED/primary care physician/surgeon 	Within 12 weeks
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elective indication for surgery; Minimal risk of morbidity incurred by waiting 	Within 26 weeks

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY TARGETS

Orthopaedic surgery is a surgical procedure performed to treat benign conditions of the musculoskeletal system, including bones, joints, muscles, tendons and ligaments.

Priority Level	Orthopaedic Surgery Priority Descriptions	Access Target
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgery is urgently required i.e. fractures, tendon/ligament injury, significant joint derangement 	Within 1 Week
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe pain that actively affects role and independence; High probability of disease progression and morbidity affecting function 	Within 6 Weeks
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate pain; Disability is a threat to role and independence; Disease progression is moderate 	Within 12 Weeks
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal pain; disability does not threaten role and independence; Disease progression is minimal 	Within 26 Weeks

OPHTHALMIC SURGERY TARGETS

Ophthalmic surgery includes surgical procedure performed to treat benign conditions of the eye and surrounding bones and soft tissue. Specific access targets were created for cataract, corneal transplant, glaucoma and vitrectomy surgeries. All other ophthalmic surgeries use the below general ophthalmic surgery access targets.

Priority Level	General Ophthalmic Surgery Priority Descriptions	Access Target
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate surgery required to preserve sight or prevent secondary damage 	Within 24 hours
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significantly impacts ability to perform usual activities; High probability of disease progression that might affect ocular function or result in compromised surgical outcome; Constant, frequent or severe pain/symptoms (biological, psychological) 	Within 6 Weeks
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderately impacts ability to perform usual activities; Moderate probability of disease progression that might affect ocular function or result in compromised surgical outcome; Moderate or occasional pain/symptoms (biological, psychological) 	Within 12 Weeks
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elective indication for surgery; Minimally impacts ability to perform usual activities; Minimal risk of morbidity incurred by waiting 	Within 26 Weeks

OTHER OPHTHALMIC SURGERY TARGETS

Priority Level	Cataract	Corneal Transplant	Glaucoma	Vitrectomy
1	Within 24 hours	Within 24 hours	Within 24 hours	Within 24 hours
2	Within 6 weeks	Within 4 weeks	Within 2 weeks	Within 1 week
3	Within 12 weeks	Within 12 weeks	Within 6 weeks	Within 6 weeks
4	Within 26 weeks	Within 26 weeks	Within 16 weeks	Within 12 weeks

For public inquiries call ServiceOntario, INFOline at 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free in Ontario only)

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