


# Hip/Knee Surgeries Waiting >26 Weeks

Most Recent Performance	17%	Performance Assessment	 Red
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 5%	Performance is significantly outside acceptable range; take action and monitor progress.	

## What do we measure and why?

'Hip/Knee Surgeries Waiting > 26 Weeks' reports the percentage of total joint (hip and knee replacement) surgery patients waiting more than 26 weeks. Receiving surgery promptly is important to patient wellbeing. The reduction of wait times and waitlists is an Island Health priority.

'Wait time' is elapsed time between the hospital receiving a request from a surgeon for surgery, and the surgery being performed. If wait time was extended because the patient was unavailable, that extra wait time is not included in the measure.

The percentage of cases waiting longer than the 26-week benchmark is calculated based on those dates less any patient unavailable time.

Surgical services are provided at eight hospitals across Island Health. In addition, Island Health contracts with two private surgical facilities in Victoria and Nanaimo to provide publicly-funded day surgery procedures.

## What is the target?

The Island Health target for 2019/20 is that no more than 5% of the total joint (hip and knee replacement) surgery cases have been waiting longer than 26 weeks (as measured at the end of each fiscal period in the year). Rates above 5% are assessed as red, requiring action.

## How are we doing?

As of January 2020, Island Health was not meeting the target. These rates are much better than last year due to additional funding to perform hip and knee surgeries in Island Health as well as improved waitlist management.

## What actions are we taking?

In alignment with the Ministry of Health Provincial Surgery Strategy, Island Health is implementing four strategic initiatives to improve the patient experience, reduce wait times, and increase access to surgery:

1. "Catch Up & Keep Up" - reduce wait times for total joints and dental by performing additional procedures;
2. Optimize operating room efficiencies by reducing seasonal closures;
3. Improve patient experience through coordinated scheduling of surgical procedures and improving communication with patients; and,
4. Completing the implementation of three Hip and Knee Centres (Victoria, Nanaimo and North Island) in order to improve integration and coordination of services for patients undergoing total hip and knee joint replacements.