



Waiting times

- **Number of patients waiting more than 36 weeks:**

	Inpatient	Outpatient
30 April 06	7218	19524
30 April 07	0	104

- **92% of inpatients and 94% of outpatients on the waiting lists have been waiting less than 6 months**
- **Only around 20% of contacts with the NHS take place in a hospital – the rest take place in the community**
- **The work covered by waiting lists represents only around 25% of a hospital's activity**
- **Around 60% of hospital bed-days are accounted for by patients with chronic conditions**
- **An estimated 30% of lung disease patients could be treated in the community instead if appropriate support were available, saving around 14,300 bed days per year in Welsh hospitals**

References

1. NHS Wales waiting times at end April - SDR 70/2007, Welsh Assembly Government
2. NHS Waiting Times in Wales (vol 1), Wales Audit Office, 2005, p.13-14 (25% of activity)
3. Improving Chronic Disease Management, Department of Health 2004 (60% of bed days)
4. A Question of Balance, Paul Williams, 2003, p.41 (COPD)