

Survey and interviews with women on gynaecology waiting lists

Between the 16th November and the 31st December 2021 the RCOG undertook a survey of women to understand their experiences of being on gynaecology waiting list. There were 837 responses to the online survey which we shared on social media and through our stakeholders. A copy of the survey is available on request. The RCOG acknowledges that survey respondents are not a representative sample of everyone on a gynaecology waiting list across the UK, but rather provides an insight in to the feelings and experiences of those waiting.

The RCOG policy and public affairs team then contacted women who indicated they were willing to speak in more detail about their experience of being on a gynaecology waiting list, and undertook a series of interviews by phone or video call. Respondents were selected for interview to ensure representation as far as possible across condition area, UK nations and English regions, and where in the diagnostic and treatment pathway they are for their gynaecological condition (e.g. waiting for an initial outpatient appointment or waiting for surgery).

Survey and interviews with RCOG members

Between the 16th November and the 31st December 2021, concurrently to the survey of women on gynaecology waiting lists, the RCOG undertook an online survey of its members to understand more about the waiting lists in their area, and what they saw as the main challenges to reducing the backlog in elective gynaecology. There were 135 responses to the survey, with representation from members in all four UK nations, and all regions in England. A copy of the survey is available on request.

The RCOG policy and public affairs team then contacted members who indicated they were willing to speak in more detail about the gynaecology waiting lists in their area, and conducted a series of interviews. Interviewees were selected to ensure representation as far as possible from all UK nations and regions in England, as well as members with a variety of job plans in order to understand the key issues across outpatient, inpatient and emergency gynaecology, including members working in urogynaecology.