

GLOSSARY

Emergency (CEPOD) theatres	These are dedicated emergency theatres aimed to prevent emergency surgery disrupting elective theatre lists. While CEPOD theatres are typically used during daytime hours, they are designed to be available 24/7 to handle a range of emergencies.
Fasting	Fasting before surgery is crucial for patient safety, particularly when general anaesthesia or sedation is involved. It helps prevent vomiting during surgery, which can be dangerous.
Hot lists	Strategies for efficiently utilising operating theatre time to increase the number of procedures performed in a day, particularly to address backlogs in elective surgery.
Laceration	A deep cut or tear in the skin and underlying tissue, often caused by blunt trauma or sharp objects.
NCEPOD classification of intervention	Categorises interventions based on urgency into four categories: Immediate, Urgent, Expedited, and Elective. This classification system helps to ensure patients are treated within appropriate timeframes and optimises resource allocation.
Operational Delivery Network (ODN)	A formal structure in the NHS that co-ordinates the delivery of specialised healthcare services across multiple organisations and geographical areas. ODNs focus on improving patient access, consistency, outcomes, and productivity by co-ordinating care pathways between providers.
Orchidectomy	A surgical procedure to remove one or both testicles.
Orchidopexy	A surgical procedure to relocate an undescended testicle into the scrotum.
Paediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS)	A consistent way of measuring vital signs to recognise deterioration in a child's health.
Resident doctors	A fully qualified doctor who is either undergoing postgraduate training or working in a non-training post. The term replaced 'junior doctor' in September 2024 to better reflect their skills and responsibilities.
Torted testicle	A medical emergency where the testicle twists on the spermatic cord, cutting off the blood supply.