Publication Summary

Emergency Department Activity and Waiting Times
Publication date – 28 May 2013

About this Release
Quarterly update of Emergency Department Activity and Waiting Times statistics (includes data to 31 March 2013) reporting on attendances at Accident and Emergency (A&E) services across Scotland.

Key Points

Figure 1-1: Number of new and unplanned attendances at A&E Services across Scotland and proportion of those seen within 4 hours, July 2007 to March 2013

- Total A&E attendances have increased from 1.60 million in 2008/09 to 1.65 million in 2012/13
- During the quarter ending 31 March 2013, the proportion of new and unplanned attendances at all A&E services across Scotland that were seen and discharged within 4 hours was: 89.7% January, 91.9% February and 91.9% March.
In March 2013 four NHS Boards achieved the waiting time standard of 98% of patients admitted, transferred or discharged from A&E within 4 hours.

In the 12 months to March 2013, the average Emergency Department attendance rate was 2,153 per 100,000 population. The HEAT target for March 2014 is to reduce this figure to 2,095 per 100,000 population.

Background
A&E services have submitted data to ISD through the A&E datamart since July 2007. This data collection was primarily established to support the 4-hour waiting time target, but has since expanded and the additional information used to support a variety of other purposes both by NHS Boards and Scottish Government.

The tables and charts in this publication include:
- Trend in number of attendances at A&E Services
- Performance against the 4-hour waiting time standard
- Performance against the HEAT target to reduce attendance rates

The information is provided for Scotland, NHS Board and, in some instances, hospital.

The collective term A&E Services includes the following site types:
1) Emergency Departments (EDs) – a consultant-led, 24 hour service with full resuscitation facilities and designated accommodation for the reception of emergency patients
2) MIU/Other – smaller sites such as Minor Injury Units (MIUs), community A&Es or community casualty departments that are GP or nurse led

A list of sites and their classification can be found on the Emergency Care webpage.

Contact
Anne Stott
Senior Information Analyst
nss.isdunscheduledcare@nhs.net
0131 275 6820
Catriona Haddow
Principal Information Analyst
nss.isdunscheduledcare@nhs.net
0131 275 6341

Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website.

About ISD
Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

Official Statistics
Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/