Publication Summary

Emergency Department Activity and Waiting Times

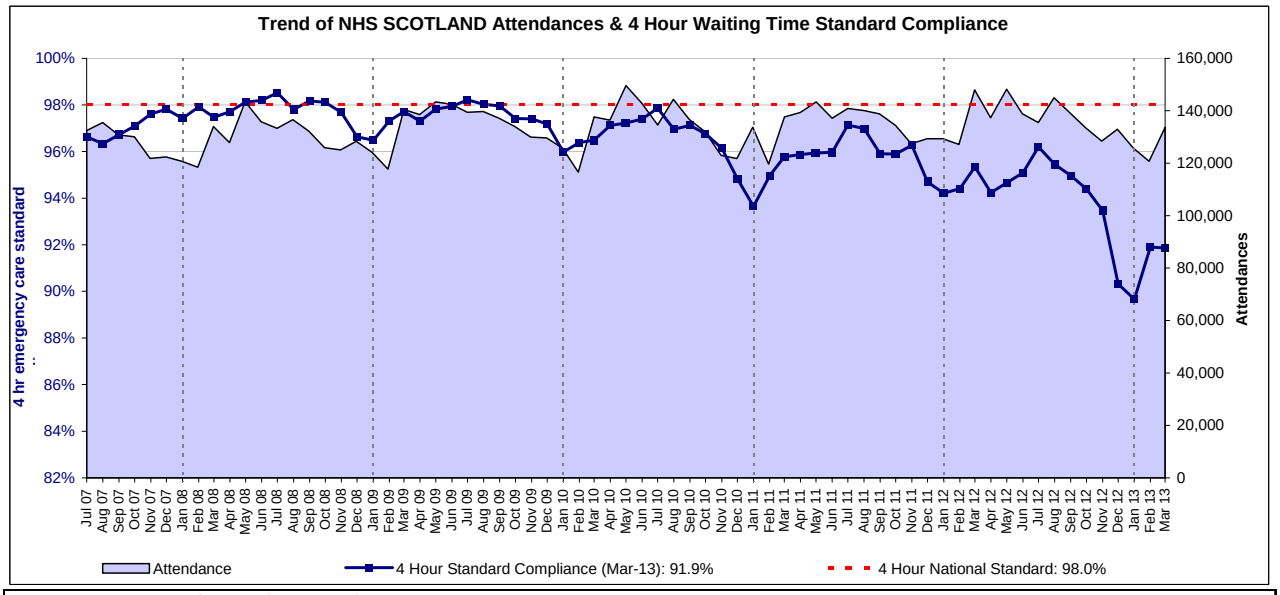
Publication date – 28 May 2013

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



Source: ISD Scotland Please read accompanying notes

- 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.

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Further Information

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

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