NHS Performs - Weekly Update of Emergency Department Activity and Waiting Times Statistics

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About this Release
This release of NHS Performs includes official statistics sourced from aggregate figures supplied by NHS Boards to ISD Scotland on attendances at Emergency Departments (EDs) across Scotland. The information presented in this release continues the trend of statistics previously collected by the Scottish Government on the number of attendances, and length of time patients spend in EDs. An excel spreadsheet presenting information on all EDs within the same table is also available.

The statistics in this release cover only EDs (larger A&E services that typically provide a 24 hour consultant led service). Full information on the use of other units that provide A&E services such as minor injury units, small hospitals and health centres in rural areas is not currently included. Complete information is reported through ISD Scotland's monthly report on Accident and Emergency Activity and Waiting Times.

Key Points
- During the week ending 21st June 2015:
  - There were 25,338 attendances at EDs across Scotland.
  - 93.9% of attendances at EDs were seen and subsequently admitted, transferred or discharged within 4 hours.
  - 80 (0.3%) patients spent more than 8 hours in the department
  - 1 (0.0%) patient spent more than 12 hours in the department.

Background
Since 3 March 2015, the Scottish Government (SG) has released official statistics on weekly A&E activity and waiting times information for the EDs in Scotland, derived from aggregate information supplied by NHS Boards on the number of attendances and 4, 8, and 12 hour waits. ISD took over this data collection for statistics covering the week ending 7 June.
A National Statistics publication on A&E Activity and Waiting Times is released on the first Tuesday of every month. The statistics in the monthly publication are derived from the A&E datamart to which NHS Boards submit data as either episode level files containing a detailed record for each attendance or as aggregate files containing monthly summary attendance and compliance figures only. These statistics are subject to a higher level of quality assurance than the weekly statistics; however, there is good agreement between the two data sources. A comparison can be found online at Emergency Care - Statistics.

Since 2007, the national standard for A&E waiting times is that new and unplanned return attendances at an A&E service should be seen and then admitted, transferred or discharged within four hours. This standard applies to all areas of emergency care such as EDs, assessment units, minor injury units, community hospitals, anywhere emergency care type activity takes place. A list of sites providing emergency care and their classification can be found online at Emergency Care - Hospital Site List.

For information on how the Scottish Government (SG) monitors NHS Boards’ performance within A&E Services, please see the NHS Local Delivery Plan standards.

Contact
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Further Information
Further information can be found on the Emergency Care pages of the ISD Scotland website. A metadata document has been produced for this publication.