Delayed Discharges in NHSScotland

Occupied Bed Days in May 2016 and Census Figures for June 2016

Publication Date – 26 July 2016

About this release

Information Services Division publish on a monthly basis the number of hospital bed days associated with delayed discharges for a full calendar month, and the number of patients classified as a delayed discharge at the monthly census point (currently the 15th of the month).

Main Points

Hospital bed days associated with delays in discharge in May 2016:

- In May 2016, patients spent 44,305 days in hospital due to delays in discharge. This is a 6% decrease on the same period last year.
Patients ready for discharge as at June 2016 census:

- 1,159 patients were delayed at the June 2016 census. This is a 3% increase on May 2016.
- 338 of these delays (29%) were for patients with specific complex care needs.
- Of the remaining 821 patients delayed at the census:
  - 262 (32%) were awaiting place availability in a care home
  - 204 (25%) were awaiting completion of social care arrangements for social care support to live in their own home – awaiting social support (e.g. carer).
  - 181 (22%) were awaiting completion of a post hospital social care assessment

**Background**

A delayed discharge is a hospital patient that is clinically ready for discharge from inpatient hospital care but continues to occupy a hospital bed beyond the ready for discharge date. Timely discharge from hospital is an important indicator of quality and is a marker for person centred, effective, integrated and harm free care.

Revised data definitions and national data requirements became effective on 1 July 2016. The changes to our submission process mean that there will be no publication in August 2016. Monthly publications will resume from September 2016 at which point we will publish June 2016 bed days and July 2016 census and bed days. Please see the Guidelines page within the Delayed Discharges section of our website for more details. We are currently consulting with our stakeholders on the format of future publications. The consultation paper is available on the Latest News and Updates section of our web pages.

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**Further Information**

The data from this publication is available to download from our web page along with a background information and glossary, and metadata document.

For more information on Delayed Discharges see the Delayed Discharges section of our website. For related topics, please see the Health and Social Community Care pages.

The next release of this publication will be 13 September 2016.

**NHS Performs**

A selection of information from this publication is included in NHS Performs. NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.