Publication Summary

Acute Hospital Activity
and
NHS Beds Information;
Quarter ending September 2011
Publication date – 20 December 2011

About this Release
This release comprises a quarterly summary of inpatient, day case and outpatient activity and beds statistics for NHSScotland up to September 2011. In addition to these quarterly tables, the release also includes annual emergency admissions and bed day figures for patients aged 65 and over and revised annual figures, up to March 2011, for the new HEAT target on emergency bed days for patients aged 75 and over for the majority of NHS Boards.

Where possible, any missing or incomplete data has been estimated using the last complete data submission for the relevant NHS Boards. Details of the affected data can be found within the Full Publication Report and are highlighted within the relevant tables. Therefore, data for the latest time periods should be treated as provisional.

Key Points
• There were around 354,000 acute inpatient and day case discharges in the quarter ending September 2011. This is a slight decrease of 0.5% when compared to the same quarter of the previous year but is comparable with the average number of acute inpatient and day case discharges over the last 10 quarters.

• The total number of outpatient attendances in the quarter ending September 2011 was around 1,159,000. This is an increase of around 0.9% on the quarter ending September 2010.

• The average number of available staffed beds in acute specialties was recorded as 16,353 in quarter ending September 2011 and was 16,624 in the quarter ending September 2010.
There has been a decrease of 2.7% in the emergency bed day rate per 1,000 population for patients aged 75+ from 5,530 to 5,383 between 2008/09 and 2009/10. Scotland level data for 2010/11 is not yet available.

Background
Outpatient, inpatient and day case activity data and beds information are collected across NHSScotland and are based on nationally available information routinely drawn from hospital administrative systems across the country.

Due to the ongoing issues relating to the supply of complete and comprehensive hospital activity data from a number of NHS Boards, ISD Scotland are still unable to publish its detailed annual Acute Hospital Activity statistics for the year ending March 2011. This information was originally intended to be published in September 2011. ISD are working with NHS Boards to resolve these data submission issues. Most of the issues have resulted from the implementation of the new PMS TrakCare system. Further details of these issues can be found here.

The data contained within this publication are predominantly based on ISD(S)1 aggregate data returns. ISD(S)1 contains summarised data by NHS Board of Treatment, hospital and specialty, i.e. high level reports with no patient details.

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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the Acute Hospital Activity pages of 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.