

Publication Summary



Acute Hospital Activity and NHS Beds Information

Quarter ending December 2014

Publication date – 31 March 2015



About this Release

This quarterly publication summarises information on different aspects of hospital care, sourced from hospital administrative systems across Scotland. It is designed to provide timely, high level hospital activity and beds statistics, and update information on current Scottish Government Performance Targets (HEAT targets).

The 'In Focus' section this quarter looks in more detail at Did Not Attend (DNA) rates for New Outpatient appointments .

Key Points

- The number of new outpatient attendances has remained relatively steady over the past five years, at around 365,000 per quarter. The number of return outpatient appointments remained at around 764,000.
- The number of inpatient and day case discharges in acute specialties has increased by around 40,000 since quarter ending December 2009 to around 395,000 in quarter ending December 2014.
- The number of average available staffed beds since December 2011 has remained relatively stable and continued to show a seasonal trend.
- Since the Heat 75+ target¹ was introduced in 2009/10, the rate of emergency bed days per 1,000 patients aged 75 and over in Scotland has reduced by a provisional 11.2% from 5,421 in 2009/10 to 4,815 in 2013/14.
- Our 'In Focus' analysis shows that more men do not attend hospital appointments than women – the DNA rate for males was 11.9 compared to 9.9 for females.

¹ The Heat 75+ target is to reduce the rate of emergency inpatient bed days for people aged 75 and over per 1,000 population by at least 12% between 2009/10 and 2014/15.

Figures also show that those in the most deprived areas are much more likely to DNA new outpatient appointments than those living in the least deprived areas.

Background

Outpatient, inpatient and day case activity data are collected across NHSScotland and are based on nationally available information routinely drawn from hospital administrative systems across the country. The principal data sources used in this publication are the SMR00 (source for some outpatients information), SMR01 (source for acute specialties inpatient and day case hospital activity information) and ISD(S)1 (source for all specialties inpatient and day case hospital activity information and some outpatient activity information) returns.

A revision has been made to this publication from its original release. Data for Outpatient attendances for published at NHS Scotland level and for NHS Grampian within this report and [Table 1](#) have been revised. An analytical error has meant that NHS Grampian outpatient attendances were higher than they should have been. This error has now been fixed within NHS Grampian data re-extracted in June 2015 and NHS Scotland has been updated accordingly. The percentage difference for NHS Scotland between the revised data and the incorrect data published in March 2015 ranges from -0.2% to 2.4%.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#)

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