Publication Summary

Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratios
July – September 2015
Quarterly Report

About this Release
NHS National Services Scotland’s Information Services Division publish, on a quarterly basis, Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratios (HSMR); these are calculated when mortality data are adjusted to take account of some of the factors known to affect the underlying risk of death. The HSMR calculation includes patients who died within 30 days from hospital admission. NHS Boards use HSMR information to help improve the quality of care and treatment.

Key Points

- The HSMR for Scotland has decreased by 16.5% between October-December 2007 and July – September 2015.

- Nine hospitals have shown a reduction in excess of 20%:
  - Balfour Hospital
  - Crosshouse Hospital
  - Victoria/Queen Margaret/Forth Park Hospital
  - Forth Valley Royal Hospital
  - Royal Alexandra/Vale of Leven
  - Hairmyres Hospital
  - Monklands District General Hospital
  - Wishaw General Hospital
  - Ninewells Hospital
• Since October-December 2007, there has been a reduction in HSMR in 26 of the 29 hospitals participating in the Scottish Patient Safety Programme (SPSP).

Background
The HSMR is based on all acute inpatient and day case patients admitted to all specialties in hospital. The calculation takes account of patients who died within 30 days from admission; and includes deaths that occurred in the community as well as those occurring in-hospital.

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\text{HSMR} = \frac{\text{Observed Deaths}}{\text{Predicted Deaths}}
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The Scottish HSMR for July – September 2015 is currently 0.82. Compared to an index of 1 this means that there were 18% fewer deaths than predicted in the period. Analysis for Scotland indicates that by July – September 2015 there had been a 16.5% reduction in hospital mortality since October-December 2007.

Deaths that occur in hospital may be inevitable because of the patient’s condition on admission. However, there are some deaths that can be prevented by improving care and treatment or by avoiding harm.

Information Services Division has produced quarterly Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratios for all Scottish hospitals participating in the Scottish Patient Safety Programme since December 2009. The aim of the Scottish Patient Safety Programme is to reduce hospital mortality by 20% by December 2015.

The next update, reporting on admissions to 31st December 2015, will be published on Tuesday 17 May 2016. This will be the last publication reporting on progress towards the current Scottish Patient Safety Programme aim of reducing mortality by 20% by end of December 2015.

Further Information
Further information can be found in the HSMR quarterly report 16 February 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.

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