Scottish Hip Fracture Audit

Hip Fracture Care Pathway Report 2018

A Management Information publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release by Information Services Division presents the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit’s 2018 annual national report. This includes data from the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit, describing the quality of hip fracture care in each acute hospital during 2017, measuring each hospital against the Scottish Hip Fracture Care Standards (2016).

Main Points

This report summarises care provided to 6,669 patients with a hip fracture in 2017, 93% of all patients admitted during this time period.

- 39% of patients had delirium screening in emergency departments (ED) as recommended (also 39% in 2016), and 91% had a cognitive assessment within 24 hours of admission to the ward (down from 92% in 2016).
- Use of nerve blocks (rather than morphine-based pain relief) in ED has risen from 31% in 2016 to 48% in 2017, although rates still vary widely.
- In 2017, 30% of patients had a delay to theatre of greater than 36 hours (31% in 2016), usually because of a lack of theatre time or for anaesthetic reasons.
- The proportion of people having a geriatric assessment within three days of admission continued to improve, from 69% in 2016 to 78% in 2017.
- Consideration of bone health during the acute stay fell slightly to 86% in 2017 compared to 88% in 2016.
- The percentage of patients back home at 30 days after their hip fracture remained at 58% in 2017, varying between 39% and 70% across Scottish hospitals.
Variation between hospitals in achievement of Scottish Standards of Care for Hip Fracture Patients in 2017 is shown in the chart below. It is clear that there remains significant variation in achievement of each standard across the country and improving on this will be a major focus of the audit in 2018 and 2019.

Background

The Scottish Hip Fracture Audit monitors the quality of care provided to hip fracture patients by surgical hospitals in Scotland as part of the Trauma and Orthopaedic ACCESS Programme, a collaborative programme between Scottish Government, ISD and NHS Boards in Scotland.

People who suffer from a hip fracture are usually frail and elderly and at risk of complications from surgery and/or the injury and this can be associated with increased length of stay in hospital, admission to care homes and mortality.

Data are collected by Local Audit Co-ordinators based in each hospital.

Contact

Graeme Holt
Scottish Hip Fracture Advisory Group Chair
07530 279045
Graeme.holt@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

Rik Smith
Senior Analyst
0131 275 7040
rsmith11@nhs.net

Further Information

More information on the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit and hip fracture care, including a full copy of this report, is available on our website www.shfa.scot.nhs.uk.

The next release of this publication will be autumn 2019.

ISD and 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. Further information about our statistics.