



Publication Summary

Findings from the AHP Waiting Times Census in Scotland

Patients seen for First AHP Treatment from Monday 6 February to Friday 10 February

Publication date – 10 July 2012

About this Release

A national census of all new patients attending outpatient and community services in Scotland for 1st AHP treatment was held between Monday 6th and Friday 10th February 2012. This publication presents findings from the Census.

Key Points

The following summarises findings from the census:

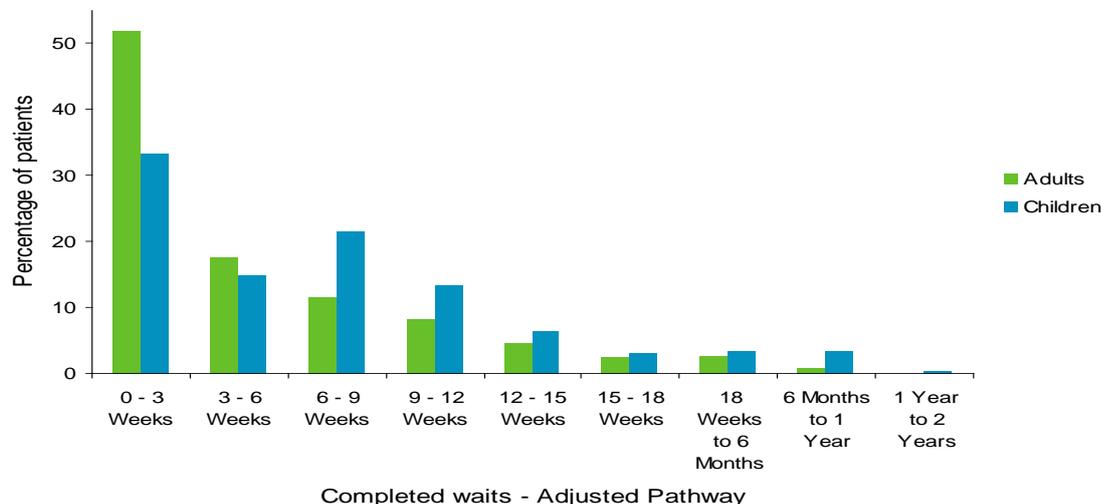
- In total, 2,493 AHPs reported information on 12,422 patients seen during census week for 1st AHP treatment, an average of 5 patients per AHP. Patients were most commonly referred by their GP; 33% (4,097 patients) and 18% (2,260 patients) were self referrals.
- Patients' 1st AHP treatment most commonly took place in a hospital (46%, 5,663 patients), in an NHS Health Centre/Clinic (32%, 4,020 patients) or in their current residence i.e. domiciliary care, (13%, 1,574 patients).

Information reported on waiting times was calculated from referral to first AHP treatment and it was collected according to 'New Ways' principles in that NHS Boards were asked to record only one (the last) of any periods of unavailability and/or non-attendance so that waits could be adjusted. This is not fully 'New Ways' compliant and much work would be required to establish and make local IT systems fully compliant. Unavailability and non-attendance was only recorded for a small number of patients which would suggest further training for staff to understand and record the concepts would be required. The census found that:

- In total, 50% of patients (6,225) waited 3 weeks or less for 1st AHP treatment, 4% of patients (495) waited 18 weeks or more.
- If the waiting times are reported for adults (11,253 patients) and children (1,169 patients) separately, the information shows that overall, children are waiting longer for 1st AHP treatment than adults; 52% of adults (5,834 patients) were seen within 3

weeks, 4% of adults (410 patients) waited over 18 weeks for 1st AHP treatment. For children, 33% received 1st AHP Treatment within 3 weeks (391 patients), 7% waited 18 weeks or over (85 patients).

Waiting times for adults (18 years & over) and children; all AHP Professions



Background

Currently in Scotland, there is a lack of accurate and consistent information on AHP activity and waiting times. The Scottish Government therefore asked Information Services Division (ISD) to undertake a census to help answer questions about how long patients wait for AHP services from referral to 1st AHP treatment and to establish a base line position for future comparison.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [full report](#)  [548 Kb] on 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. www.isdscotland.org/