Publication Summary

Cancelled Planned Operations

Month Ending 31 August 2015

Publication date – 06 October 2015

About this Release

This release by Information Services Division provides at a Scotland, NHS board and individual hospital level, the number of patients in NHSScotland who have had their planned hospital operation cancelled and the reason for this cancellation.

Key Points

- The total number of planned operations across NHSScotland during August 2015 was 28,902. Of these, 2,576 (8.9%) operations were cancelled either by the hospital or by the patient, with individual NHS boards ranging from 6% to 15%. This compares with a cancellation rate of 9.1% in July;

- Of all planned operations, 893 (3.1%) were cancelled based on clinical reasons by the hospital, 448 (1.6%) were cancelled by the hospital due to capacity or other non-clinical reasons and 1,058 (3.7%) were cancelled by the patient.

Background

These statistics are released monthly. Data are provided by NHS Boards Theatre Systems and include patients who are cancelled the day before, or on the day of their elective operation. As the data builds over time Information Services Division will be able to report on trends in cancellations.

Data for this publication are submitted from the NHS Boards information systems used to plan and book operations.
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.

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 www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/

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Further Information

A workbook containing data for Scotland, NHS Board and hospital is available here.

Further information can be found on the waiting times pages of the ISD Scotland website. A metadata document has been produced for this publication.

This information is also available through the NHS Performs website.

General Enquiries
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The next release of this data will be on 3 November 2015.