**STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE
MONTHLY CRITICAL CARE BEDS AND CANCELLED URGENT OPERATIONS
DATA, ENGLAND MARCH 2014**

Main Findings - March 2014:

<u>**Critical Care Beds**</u>

- There were 3,912 adult critical care beds available and 3,306 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 84.5%. This is similar to occupancy rates observed in recent months, but is lower than March 2013, where the figure was 85.1%.

- There were 436 paediatric critical care beds available and 351 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 80.5%. This is lower than occupancy rates observed in recent months, and is lower than March 2013, where the figure was 81.4%.

- There were 1,375 neo-natal critical care beds available and 966 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 70.3%. This is similar to occupancy rates observed in recent months, but is lower than March 2013, where the figure was 70.6%.

Table 1 shows Critical Care Bed Occupancy rates since August 2011.
Details of critical care data for individual organisations are available at:
http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/critical-care-capacity/

<u>**Cancelled Urgent Operations**</u>

- The number of urgent operations cancelled was 232 in March 2014, which compares to 244 in February 2014 and 355 in March 2013.

Table 2 shows information on urgent operations cancelled from August 2011 to March 2014
Details of cancelled urgent operations data for individual organisations are available at:
http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/critical-care-capacity/

In addition, data on cancelled elective operations can be found at:
http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/cancelled-elective-operations/

Table 1 – Critical Care Bed Occupancy Rates – August 2011 to March 2014

Month	Adult Critical Care			Paediatric Critical Care			Neonatal Critical Care		
	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%
Aug-11	3,704	2,953	79.7%	396	265	66.9%	1,269	917	72.3%
Sep-11	3,718	3,042	81.8%	409	314	76.8%	1,277	924	72.4%
Oct-11	3,728	3,046	81.7%	396	307	77.5%	1,289	984	76.3%
Nov-11	3,702	3,121	84.3%	393	334	85.0%	1,295	988	76.3%
Dec-11	3,696	2,961	80.1%	393	335	85.2%	1,295	953	73.6%
Jan-12	3,733	3,154	84.5%	402	320	79.6%	1,291	935	72.4%
Feb-12	3,744	3,198	85.4%	405	336	83.0%	1,301	946	72.7%
Mar-12	3,738	3,193	85.4%	404	340	84.2%	1,313	985	75.0%
Apr-12	3,729	3,137	84.1%	407	309	75.9%	1,324	973	73.5%
May-12	3,722	3,189	85.7%	402	301	74.9%	1,319	1,008	76.4%
Jun-12	3,727	3,046	81.7%	395	316	80.0%	1,380	1,026	74.3%
Jul-12	3,719	3,017	81.1%	409	309	75.6%	1,368	985	72.0%
Aug-12	3,712	2,891	77.9%	411	287	69.8%	1,374	979	71.3%
Sep- 12	3,730	3,059	82.0%	405	298	73.6%	1,368	957	70.0%
Oct-12	3,731	3,083	82.6%	410	320	78.0%	1,377	963	69.9%
Nov-12	3,788	3,264	86.2%	425	373	87.8%	1,375	996	72.4%
Dec-12	3,758	3,067	81.6%	426	326	76.5%	1,376	951	69.1%
Jan-13	3,785	3,273	86.5%	423	331	78.3%	1,365	934	68.4%
Feb-13	3,770	3,309	87.8%	429	341	79.5%	1,365	959	70.3%
Mar-13	3,786	3,221	85.1%	425	346	81.4%	1,370	967	70.6%
Apr-13	3,828	3,264	85.3%	416	346	83.2%	1,391	970	69.7%
May-13	3,810	3,129	82.1%	424	323	76.2%	1,395	1,011	72.5%
Jun-13	3,798	3,152	83.0%	427	340	79.6%	1,369	959	70.1%
Jul-13	3,814	3,130	82.1%	423	328	77.5%	1,362	930	68.3%
Aug-13	3,830	3,124	81.6%	417	300	71.9%	1,360	945	69.5%
Sep-13	3,830	3,181	83.1%	421	329	78.1%	1,365	995	72.9%
Oct-13	3,835	3,137	81.8%	430	326	75.8%	1,385	998	72.1%
Nov-13	3,869	3,303	85.4%	451	391	86.7%	1,371	986	71.9%
Dec-13	3,829	2,952	77.1%	442	369	83.5%	1,365	943	69.1%
Jan-14	3,879	3,339	86.1%	439	378	86.1%	1,360	980	72.1%
Feb-14	3,893	3,366	86.5%	440	365	83.0%	1,376	974	70.8%
Mar-14	3,912	3,306	84.5%	436	351	80.5%	1,375	966	70.3%

Notes:
1. Data relating to the number of available and occupied critical care beds is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month.
2. Before February 2011, data on Critical Care beds were published bi-annually in a separate collection. Therefore, Critical Care data published until January should be treated with a degree of caution.

Table 2 – Cancelled Operations – August 2011 to March 2014

Month	Urgent Operations Cancelled
August 2011	254
September 2011	310
October 2011	301
November 2011	419
December 2011	389
January 2012	322
February 2012	352
March 2012	282
April 2012	229
May 2012	283
June 2012	229
July 2012	250
August 2012	238
September 2012	244
October 2012	301
November 2012	299
December 2012	220
January 2013	316
February 2013	272
March 2013	355
April 2013	345
May 2013	271
June 2013	288
July 2013	280
August 2013	245
September 2013	229
October 2013	214
November 2013	196
December 2013	250
January 2014	261
February 2014	244
March 2014	232

Statistical Notes to Editors

1. Critical Care data

Data relating to the number of available and occupied critical care beds is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month.

2. Data Quality

Monthly SitReps data has been collected and published since August 2010. Prior to August 2010, data was collected weekly and was un-validated management information.

Critical care data published until January should be treated with a degree of caution as data on Critical Care beds was published bi-annually in a separate collection until January 2011. Since February 2011, there has been a significant improvement in the coverage and accuracy of this data.

3. Data Availability

Monthly Sitreps data is published approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the end of the reference period.

4. Revisions

Revisions to previous month's data are made in line with NHS England's revisions protocol for performance monitoring data. Future revisions will be made on a six monthly cycle. The revisions protocol can be found here:
http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/code-compliance/#Unifypolicy

5. Feedback Welcomed

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of Critical Care and Cancelled Operations within this Statistical Press Notice and those published on NHS England's website. Please email any comments on this, or any other issues regarding the SitReps data and statistics, to: unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Additional Information

For press enquiries please contact the NHS England media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 825 0959

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