This monthly release aims to provide users with an overview of NHS performance statistics in key areas. Official statistics are designed to give informative and impartial information about the performance of the NHS.

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Key Statistics

Accident and Emergency

- In the last 12 months there has been a 3.6% growth in the number of people attending A&E (3.7%, adjusted for missing data) and a 5.6% growth in the number of people admitted to hospital as an emergency (5.7% adjusted for missing data).
- Non-elective admission growth for the 12 months (to end September) was 4.8% overall. This 4.8% growth was comprised of 9.6% growth in zero day length of stay and 2.7% growth in lengths of stay of 1 day or more.
- There were 24.3m attendances to A&E in the last twelve months and 6.2m emergency admissions to hospital.
- In October 2018, 89.1% of patients were seen within 4 hours. This is compared with 89.9% in October 2017.

Ambulances

- There were 694,980 incidents in England in October 2018 (22,419 per day), that either received a face-to-face response from an ambulance service or were resolved on the telephone.
- The mean average response time during October 2018 for Category C1 was 7 minutes and 13 seconds.

Delayed Transfers of Care

- In September 2018 patients spent a total of 144,300 extra days in hospital beds waiting to be discharged, compared to 168,000 in September 2017.
- This equates to an average of 4,809 beds occupied each day in September 2018 by a patient subject to a delayed transfer of care, compared to 5,601 in September 2017.

Referral to Treatment

- Almost 16 million patients started treatment in the last 12 months. This represents a 0.8% increase on the previous year.
- At the end of September 2018, there were 4.1m people on the waiting list for treatment. The waiting list increased by 6.0% when compared to a year earlier. At the end of September 2018, of those waiting, 86.7% had been waiting for 18 weeks or less, a fall from 89.1% in September 2017.

NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care

- The total number of Decision Support Tools (DSTs) completed for the Standard NHS CHC assessment route was 15,794 in Q2 2018-19. Of these, 1,950 (12%) were completed in an acute hospital setting (unchanged from 12% in Q1 2018-19).
- Of the 19,553 Standard NHS CHC referrals completed in Q2 2018-19, 13,913 (71%) were completed within 28 calendar days (up from 67% in Q1 2018-19).

Cancer Waiting Times

- There has been a 9.0% increase in the number of patients seen following an urgent GP referral in the last 12 months compared to the preceding 12 months. As well as a 3.8% increase in those starting first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer and a 6.2% increase in those receiving a first treatment for cancer following an urgent referral for cancer.
- In September 2018, 91.2% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer, 96.2% started a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer and 78.2% of people received a first definitive treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer within 62 days.

Early intervention in Psychosis

- There were 1,144 patients waiting to start treatment at the end of September 2018.
- In September 2018, 76.1% of patients experiencing First Episode Psychosis (FEP) started treatment within two weeks of referral.
Improving Access to Psychological Therapies

- 50.7% of patients referred to IAPT services recovered in August 2018, against a target of 50.0%. The proportion recovering increased by 1.5 percentage points between the complete years of 2014-15 and 2015-16.
Urgent and Emergency Care

Access

Accident and Emergency

- There were 2.06m attendances in October 2018, 0.9% more than in October 2017. Attendances in the last 12 months were 3.6% higher than the preceding 12 month period. When adjusted for missing data, there were 2.08m attendances in October 2018, 1.8% more than in October 2017. Attendances in the last 12 months were 3.7% higher than the preceding 12 month period.

- The number of attendances admitted, transferred or discharged within 4 hours was 1.837m - 89.1% of the total. This is a 0.1% decrease on the equivalent figure for October 2017 (1.838m seen within 4 hours).

- The number of patients seen in over 4 hours was 225,260 compared to 205,602 in October 2017, an increase of 9.6%.

- There were 542,435 emergency admissions in October 2018, 5.7% more than in October 2017 and the highest number since this collection began. Admissions in the last 12 months period were up 5.6% on the preceding 12 month period. When adjusted for missing data, there were 546,860 emergency admissions in October 2018, 6.6% more than in October 2017 and the highest number since this collection began. Admissions in the last 12 months period were up 5.7% on the preceding 12 month period.

- Non-elective admission growth for the 12 months (to end September) was 4.8% overall. This 4.8% growth was comprised of 9.6% growth in zero day length of stay and 2.7% growth in lengths of stay of 1 day or more.

- There were 48,650 patients waiting more than 4 hours from decision to admit to admission (6.9% higher than October 2017). Of these, 212 patients waited more than 12 hours (271.9% higher than in October 2017).

NHS 111

- There were 1.3m calls offered in England in October 2018, an increase of 5.8% on October 2017. There were 16.6m calls in the year ending October 2018, 9.7% more than in the previous 12 months.

- Of calls offered to NHS 111 in October 2018, the proportion abandoned after waiting longer than 30 seconds was 3.4%, up from 2.3% in October 2017. Of calls answered by NHS 111 in October 2018, 83.0% were answered within 60 seconds, compared with 87.0% in October 2017.

- Of calls triaged, the proportion that received any form of clinical input was 52.5% in October 2018. In October 2017 the proportion was 42.4%.
Ambulances

- There were 694,980 incidents in England in October 2018 (22,419 per day), that either received a face-to-face response from an ambulance service or were resolved on the telephone.

- The mean average response times across England in October 2018 were 7 minutes 13 seconds for Category C1, and 21 minutes 18 seconds for Category C2. Both C1 and C2 averages were 2% less than in September 2018.

- For cardiac arrest patients who had resuscitation commenced or continued by an Ambulance Service in England in June 2018, the proportion discharged alive from hospital was 11.3%, which is the highest proportion ever.

Quality

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 144,267 delayed days in September 2018, compared to 168,041 in September 2017. This is a decrease of 14.1%.

- These days equate to a daily average of 4,809 beds occupied by DTOC patients in September 2018 and 5,601 in September 2017.

- The proportion of delays attributable to NHS in September 2018 was 62.3% (up from 56.7% in September 2017). The remaining delays were attributed as follows: 30.5% Social Care (down from 35.9% in September 2017) and 7.2% both (down from 7.3% in September 2017).
Access

Referral to Treatment (RTT)

- 1.3m patients started consultant-led treatment in September 2018. There were 15.9m completed RTT pathways in the 12 months to September 2018. The number of completed RTT pathways in the 12 months to September 2018 increased by 0.8%, having taken account of trusts not submitting data.

- Of patients on the waiting list at the end of September 2018, 86.7% had been waiting less than 18 weeks, thus not meeting the 92% standard. This compares to 89.1% at the end of September 2017.

- The number of RTT patients waiting to start treatment at the end of September 2018 was 4.1 million. Taking account of trusts not submitting data, the waiting list increased by 6.0% over September 2017.

- The number of GP referrals made was 1,034,517 in September 2018 compared to 1,071,114 in September 2017, a decrease of 3.4% (an increase of 1.4% when adjusted for working days).

- The number of patients on the waiting list who were waiting under 18 weeks increased between September 2017 and September 2018 from 3.4m to 3.6m, and the number of patients waiting over 18 weeks rose from 418,000 to 550,000. This comparison will be affected by differences in the trusts not submitting data in each period.

- 3,156 patients were waiting more than 52 weeks. This compares to 1,778 in September 2017, and 387 patients five years ago (September 2013). This comparison will be affected by differences in the trusts not submitting information in each period.
Diagnostic Tests

- 1.8m diagnostic tests were undertaken in September 2018, an increase of 5.8% on the previous year (adjusted for working days).

- The number of tests conducted over the last twelve months is up 2.9% on the preceding twelve-month period.

- 2.7% of the patients waiting for one of the 15 key diagnostic tests at the end of September 2018 had been waiting six weeks or longer from referral, compared to the operational standard of less than 1%.

Quality

Mixed Sex Accommodation

- In September 2018, providers of NHS-funded healthcare reported 1,728 breaches of MSA guidance in relation to NHS patients in sleeping accommodation. This compares to 1,986 in August 2018 and 163 in September 2013.

- Of the 148 acute trusts that submitted data for September 2018, 97 (65.5%) reported zero sleeping breaches.

- The MSA breaching rate in September 2018 was 1.0 per 1,000 FCEs. This compares to 1.2 in August 2018 and 0.1 in September 2013.

NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care

- The total number of Decision Support Tools (DSTs) completed for the Standard NHS CHC assessment route was 15,794 in Q2 2018-19. Of these, 1,950 (12%) were completed in an acute hospital setting (unchanged from 12% in Q1 2018-19)

- Of the 19,553 Standard NHS CHC referrals completed in Q2 2018-19, 13,913 (71%) were completed within 28 calendar days (up from 67% in Q1 2018-19)

- The number of incomplete referrals exceeding 28 calendar days was 4,194 as at the last day of Q2 2018-19. Of these: 729 exceeded by up to 2 weeks; 437 exceeded by more than 2 weeks and up to 4 weeks; 939 exceeded by more than 4 weeks and up to 12 weeks; 800 exceeded by more than 12 weeks and up to 26 weeks; 1,289 exceeded by more than 26 weeks

- The total number of people eligible for NHS CHC was 55,904 as at the last day of Q2 2018-19 (up from 55,688 in Q1 2018-19). Of these, 36,947 were eligible via the Standard NHS CHC assessment route and 18,957 were eligible via the Fast Track assessment route

- The Fast Track referral conversion rate was 96% in Q2 2018-19 (unchanged from 96% in Q1 2018-19)
The Standard NHS CHC assessment conversion rate was 25% in Q2 2018-19 (down from 27% in Q1 2018-19)

The total number of people eligible for NHS-funded Nursing Care was 77,411 as at the last day of Q2 2018-19 (up from 76,762 in Q1 2018-19)

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- PROMs assess the quality of care delivered to NHS patients for hip and knee replacements by using short, self-completed questionnaires before and after a procedure. Health gain on Oxford Hip and Knee Scores is measured from 0 (worst) to 48 (best), and is calculated by using the difference in scores from the pre- and post-operative questionnaires.

- The average health gain reported for hip and knee replacements has increased very slightly year on year over time, but the proportion of patients reporting improvement has largely remained unchanged.

- Participation in PROMs for hip and knee procedures has increased since PROMs was launched.

- Finalised data for 2016/17 is now available following its publication in August 2018. Data for 2017/18 provided is provisional, this is due to post-operative questionnaires being sent out 6 months after the replacement procedure with a finalised report due to be published in 2019. Charts shown here contain all data returned to NHS Digital up to June 2018.
Access

Cancer Waiting Times

- **Two week wait**: 175,103 people were seen following an urgent referral for suspected cancer in September 2018. There were 2,067,559 people seen in the 12 months to September 2018, an increase of 9.0% (170,839 more patients) on the previous 12 months period.

- **91.2%** of people in September 2018 were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer. The operational standard specifies that 93% of patients should be seen within this time.

- **31 day wait**: 24,476 patients started a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer in September 2018. There were 298,290 patients who received first treatments in the 12 months to September 2018, an increase of 3.8% or 10,972 additional patients, on the previous 12 month period.

- **96.2%** of patients in September 2018 received a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer. The operational standard specifies that 96% of patients should be treated within this time.

- **62 day wait**: 12,839 patients received a first treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral in September 2018. There were 154,986 patients who received first treatments for cancer following an urgent GP referral in the 12 months to September 2018, an increase of 6.2% or 8,994 additional patients, on the previous 12 month period.

- The system is still responding to the spike in urology referrals that was seen earlier in the year, and the blood in pee campaign is also expected to be resulting in increased referrals and treatments. This is being seen in a large growth in urological treatments (these are up 25% from September 2017). As a result, urology contributes a significant amount of the shortfall from meeting the standard.

- **78.2%** of patients received a first definitive treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer within 62 days in September 2018, this equates to 10,046 patients being treated within the standard. The operational standard specifies that 85% of patients should be treated within this time.

Cancer Registrations

*Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by the Office for National Statistics.*

- Generally, cancer registrations have increased following advances in medicine which have resulted in an ageing population and improved detection of cancers. Advances in medicine and early detection of cancers have reduced the number of people dying from the disease.

- The number of new diagnosed cases of cancer in England continues to rise and, in 2016, there were 303,100 cancers registered (excluding non-melanoma
skin cancers) – equivalent to 828 new cases being diagnoses each day. This has increased from 275,800 cancers registered in 2010.

- Breast (15.2%), prostate (13.4%), lung (12.7%) and colorectal (11.5%) cancers continue to account for over half (52.7%) of the cancer registrations in England for all ages combined.

- Since 2010, the age-standardised rates* of cancer registrations per 100,000 people have increased in females (from 532.8 to 541.1 per 100,000 females) but have fallen for males (from 680.3 to 663.4 per 100,000 males).

- Between 2010 and 2016, mortality rates, due to cancer, for both males and females fell from 348.1 to 323.7 per 100,000 males and from 236.7 to 226.7 per 100,000 females.

### Cancer Emergency Presentations

*Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by Public Health England.*

- Between January to March 2018, of 64,283 cancer patients first presenting at hospital in England, 11,231 (17.5%) presented as an emergency.

- In England, the annual average proportion of cancer patients who first presented as an emergency has gradually fallen over the last five years reported, from 20.2% in April 2013 to March 2014 to 18.8% in April 2017 to March 2018.

- At CCG level, there was an approximate fourfold variation in the proportion of cancer patients who first presented as an emergency in the most recent quarter (January to March 2018); across the 195 CCGs the proportion varied from 9.4% to 40.5%.

### Quality

#### Cancer Survival Estimates

*Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by the Office for National Statistics.*

- Adults diagnosed with late cancer (stage 4) in 2015, which had already spread to other parts of the body, have lower 1-year survival compared with those diagnosed in the earliest stage (stage 1), with the lowest survival in lung cancer in men (17.1%) and women (21.6%).
• Conversely, adults diagnosed with melanoma of the skin, prostate and breast cancer (women only) in the earliest stage now have 1-year survival that is comparable to the general population of the same age who have not been diagnosed with cancer.

• For all childhood cancers (diagnosed in England followed up to the end of the most recently completed calendar year) combined, the general trend of increasing 5-year survival has continued. For children (0 to 14 years), 5-year survival has increased from 81.7% for those diagnosed in 2011 to 84.0% predicted for those children diagnosed in 2017. Since there is a small difference between 5-year and 10-year survival estimates, children who survive for five years often live at least a further five years after diagnosis.
Mental Health

Access

Early Intervention in Psychosis

- The number of patients waiting to start treatment (incomplete pathways) was 1,144 at the end of September 2018. Of these 536 were waiting for more than two weeks.

- 76.1% of patients started treatment within two weeks in September 2018. The waiting time standard of 53% was therefore met. This compares to 74.4% the previous month and 76.7% in September 2017.

- Providers are continuing to work on data quality, and issues identified by them may ultimately impact on performance against the standard – any single month’s data should therefore be treated with caution.

Out of Area Placements

These statistics are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- The Government set a national ambition to eliminate inappropriate Out of Area Placements (OAPs) in mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care by 2020-21. Inappropriate OAPs are where patients are sent out of area because no bed is available for them locally, which can delay their recovery.

- The latest data published relates to the position at the end of August 2018 and reports that there were 790 Out of Area Placements (OAPs) active, of which 765 were Inappropriate.

- These figures only contain OAPs that started on or after 17 October 2016 (the date this OAPs collection launched). The impact of this start date on the report should be considered minimal.

- This month, 54 organisations have participated in this collection out of 57 organisations in scope. This means that 95 per cent of organisations have participated.

Children and Young People with an Eating Disorder

These statistics are published quarterly by NHS England.

- By 2020, 95% of children and young people referred for assessment or treatment for an eating disorder should receive treatment within one week if the case is urgent, and four weeks if the case is routine.

- 81.3% of patients started urgent treatment within one week in Q2 2018-19. This compares to 74.7% in Q1 2018-19 and 71.0% in Q2 2017-18.
Mental Health Services – Contacts and Referrals

These statistics are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- The number of new referrals into NHS funded secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services during August 2018 was 287,869. This is an increase of 3.9% (10,826) compared to the average number of new referrals per month between August 2017 and July 2018.

- In January 2016 the scope of statistics for secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services was expanded to include services for children and young people. Due to this, comparable figures are not available prior to this date.

- The number of people in contact with NHS funded secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services on 31st August 2018 was 1,272,996. This is an increase of 31,502 compared to the average number of people in contact at the end of each month between August 2017 and July 2018.

Quality

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)

These statistics are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- 50.7% of referrals recovered in August 2018, compared to 49.3% in 2016-17 and 46.3% in 2015-16. 66.1% of referrals reliably improved in August 2018, compared to 65.1% in 2016-17 and 62.2% in 2015-16. 48.0% of referrals reliably recovered in August 2018, compared to 47.0% in 2016-17 and 44.0% in 2015-16.

- There were 1,385,664 new referrals to IAPT services in 2016-17; 1% less than in 2015-16. 965,379 referrals entered treatment in 2016-17; 1%, or 11,857 referrals, more than in 2015-16.

- 567,106 referrals finished a course of IAPT treatment in 2016-17; 6%, or 29,975 referrals more than in 2015-16.

- 87.5% waited less than 6 weeks in 2016-17 and 98.2% waited less than 18 weeks in 2016-17.