

Dementia Assessment and Referral data collection – August 2019

The Collection

The **August 2019 data** for the Dementia Assessment and Referral data collection in England by NHS England were released on **November 6th 2019** according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

The collection's purpose is to improve the identification of older patients with dementia and delirium, to monitor appropriate assessment and to prompt appropriate referral and follow up after they leave hospital. Three measures are reported – the number and proportion of patients aged 75 and over admitted as an emergency for more than 72 hours:

- i) who have a diagnosis of dementia or delirium or to whom case finding is applied; [Find]
- ii) who, if identified as potentially having dementia or delirium, are appropriately assessed; [Assess/Investigate], and,
- iii) where the outcome was positive or inconclusive, are referred on to specialist services. [Refer]

The Dementia Assessment and Referral collection was retired as a CQUIN collection at the start of April 2016 but has been retained in the standard contract as a mandatory submission for acute trusts. The desired level of performance is at least 90% on each part of the indicator. Data are not collected from community trusts or CCGs.

The summary results for the current period and comparison with the previous period are presented in the tables below.

Monthly Publication – August 2019

Data Returns

	July 2019	August 2019
Total number of returns submitted by NHS trusts providing acute funded care	136	137
Number of nil returns (these are excluded from the results presented below)	3	4

Data by Total Patients

	July 2019	August 2019
% of patients aged 75 and over admitted as an emergency for more than 72 hours who were initially identified or given case finding for potential dementia	84.0%	83.7%
% of patients initially identified or found as potentially having dementia who were further appropriately assessed	92.8%	92.0%
% of patients whose assessment outcome was positive or inconclusive who were referred for specialist services	95.8%	95.6%

Data by Acute Trusts

	July 2019	August 2019
% of trusts achieving at least 90% in carrying out initial identification (using case finding) for potential cases of dementia amongst patients aged 75 and over who were admitted as an emergency for more than 72 hours	60.2% (80 Trusts)	63.9% (85 Trusts)
% of trusts achieving at least 90% in carrying out further appropriate assessments	69.2% (92 Trusts)	70.7% (94 Trusts)
% of trusts achieving at least 90% in referring on to specialist services	72.2% (96 Trusts)	70.7% (94 Trusts)
% of trusts achieving at least 90% in all three measures	41.4% (55 Trusts)	45.9% (61 Trusts)

The full data tables and the return guidance can be found on the NHS England website:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/dementia/>