

## Greater Glasgow NHS Board

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, 21st October, 2003

Board Paper No. 2003/65

Director of Planning and Community Care

## WAITING TIMES

### Recommendation:

Members are asked to note progress.

#### A. BACKGROUND

This report provides monitoring information on our progress against the key national target to have no over 9 months waits from December 2003.

#### B. CURRENT POSITION - 9 MONTH WAITING TIME TARGET

- The provisional waiting list position at September 30 is presented in table 1 for patients waiting without availability status codes (ASCs). Table 2 presents the numbers of patients with ASCs - e.g. where a patient has asked to defer admission for personal reasons.

Table 1 - All NHS Board residents without ASCs

Trust	June	July	August	September	December Target
North Glasgow	655	582	587	423	0
South Glasgow	401	409	472	351	0
Yorkhill	1	0	0	0	0
Total	1,057	991	1,059	774	0
Total - last year 2002/03	1,287	1,410	1,562	1,415	na

There are currently 774 patients waiting over 9 months at the end of September with no ASC codes applied, we plan to reduce this to zero by December 31, 2003. This represents a decrease of 285 or 27% on the position last month. A further comparison between the months of September 2002 and 2003 shows an improved position from 1,415 to 774 - a decrease this year of 641 or 45%.

The waiting list peaked in August last year at 1,562 and thereafter reduced by approximately 1,000 to 573 in March this year, thereby achieving our 2002/03 targets. We plan a similar pattern for the remainder of 2003/04, to be delivered at an accelerated rate, to achieve the National target of no patients waiting in excess of 9 months by December 2003. See in-year performance review and risk assessment.

**EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.**

Table 2 - All NHS Board residents with ASCs

Trust	June	July	August	September
North Glasgow	4,069	4,161	4,022	4,015
South Glasgow	1,802	1,856	1,903	1,887
Yorkhill	331	338	358	339
Total	6,202	6,355	6,283	6,241

More details are presented in Attachment 1.

Specific proposals to reduce the number of patients waiting over 9 months with ASC codes will be included as part of our medium term plans for 2004/05.

**In-year performance review and risk assessment**

The actual position at the end of September was 774 patients waiting over 9 months compared to a planned position of 575, which is approximately 200 in excess of plan and equally split between north and south Glasgow. In order to ensure that we deliver the planned position of no waits over 9 months by December we have agreed a number of further initiatives in conjunction with the Trusts. We have secured £740k additional funding from the National Waiting Times Unit (NWTU) to support this.

**Specific action to maintain delivery of the plan**

Revised Trust Plans, which reflect the actual position to the end of September, will be submitted to the SEHD. The revised plans will include further activity in orthopaedic surgery, general surgery and urology to take account of the under performance to September. The additional activity will include a mix of private sector and in-house capacity, predominately in the private sector.

**Weekly monitoring and review**

We are now monitoring weekly variances in the >9 month waiting time position. There is nothing significant to report to mid October. We will continue to monitor and report on an exception basis.

Director of Planning and Community Care

0141 201 4607

## **WAITING TIMES DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES (ASCs)**

At the May Board meeting it was reported that:

- There is no longer a deferred list. All patients will be on the unified list.
- The unified waiting list is made up of two categories:

Patients without Availability Status Codes (ASCs)

Patients with ASCs

- The Availability Status Code removes the concept of guarantees and associated exceptions and replaces them with codes that describe availability for treatment.

Each patient whose circumstances prevent them from receiving an offer of admission for the specialty or procedure will have an ASC code applied.

It was also agreed that future reports would provide additional information to differentiate between ASC codes.

- Schedule 1 to this paper presents a definition of each ASC.
- Schedule 2 presents the waiting list position for patients with ASCs at September 30, 2003

The numbers with code X have reduced from 489 in June to 0 in September, as planned.

**AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES (ASCs) DEFINITIONS**

2	Where the patient has asked to delay admission for personal reasons or has refused a reasonable offer of admission.	Considered mainly PATIENT driven
3	In individual cases where, after discussion with the patient, the treatment has been judged of low clinical priority.	Considered mainly SERVICE driven
4	With highly specialised treatments identified at the time of placing the patient on the waiting list.	Considered mainly SERVICE driven
8	Where the patient did not attend nor give any prior warning.	Considered mainly PATIENT driven
9	In circumstances of exceptional strain on the NHS such as a major disaster, major epidemic or outbreak of infection, or service disruption caused by industrial action.	Considered mainly SERVICE driven
A	Patients under medical constraints (condition other than that requiring treatment) which affected their ability to accept and admission date, if offered.	Considered mainly PATIENT driven
X	NEW Temporary CODE – valid until Sep 2003 – patients transferred from the DWL for whom the reason for their being on the DWL was not known.	Considered mainly SERVICE driven

**PATIENTS WAITING WITH AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES  
NORTH, SOUTH AND YORKHILL TRUSTS – SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

(To be read in conjunction with ASC definitions - see Schedule 1)

**Table 1 - All Trusts**

<b>OVER 9 MONTH WAITS</b>	<b>ASC Code</b>							<b>Total</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>X</b>	
Patients Waiting	2,783	54	1,153	902	172	1,177	0	6,241
% Distribution by ASC	45%	1%	18%	14%	3%	19%	0%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	78%				22%			

**Table 2 - All Trusts**

<b>UNDER 9 MONTH WAITS</b>	<b>ASC Code</b>							<b>Total</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>X</b>	
Patients Waiting	1553	11	298	919	0	680	0	3,461
% Distribution by ASC	45%	0%	9%	27%	0%	20%	0%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	91%				9%			

**Table 3 - All Trusts**

<b>ALL WAITS</b>	<b>ASC Code</b>							<b>Total</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>X</b>	
Patients Waiting	4,336	65	1,451	1,821	172	1,857	0	9,702
% Distribution by ASC	45%	1%	15%	19%	2%	19%	0%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	83%				17%			