

Greater Glasgow NHS Board

Board Meeting

Tuesday, 16th December, 2003

Board Paper No. 2003/79

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 November 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	August	September	October	November	December Target
North Glasgow	587	423	419	159	0
South Glasgow	472	351	232	87	0
Yorkhill	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,059	774	651	246	0
Total - last year 2002/03	1,562	1,415	1,283	1,118	na

Note - 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.

There are currently 246 patients waiting over 9 months at the end of November with no ASC codes applied. This represents a decrease of 405 or 62% on the position last month. A further comparison between the months of November 2002 and 2003 shows an improved position from 1,118 to 246 - a decrease this year of 872 or 78%.

Please refer to - Weekly Monitoring and Review - for latest position to 8th December.

EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.

Table 2 - All NHS Board residents with ASCs

Trust	August	September	October	November
North Glasgow	4,022	4,015	4,058	4,171
South Glasgow	1,903	1,887	1,981	2,108
Yorkhill	358	339	337	321
Total	6,283	6,241	6,376	6,600

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. An administrative and clinical review of all patients waiting with ASCs is ongoing. The final results are due in early 2004.

Weekly monitoring and review

We are now monitoring variances in the >9 month waiting time position on a weekly basis. Performance improvement over the last 4 weeks has been favourable and is summarised below:

- An overall NHSGG reduction over the last 4 weeks of 436 or 68%, from 633 to 197.

Please refer to Chart 1 for the weekly trend since late September.

In-year developments

The Minister for Health and Community Care announced on 21 November 2003 that delivery of the 18 weeks national maximum waiting time guarantee for Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) surgery and Angioplasty was being brought forward by 6 months from 31 December 2004, to 30 June 2004. To assist NHS Boards and Trusts deliver additional activity and to meet Ministers expectations of a performance well below an 18 weeks maximum wait, an additional £345,000 (Scotland wide) non-recurring funding has been made available to treat all patients with a guarantee waiting over 12 weeks for CABG surgery. This funding is available to the Golden Jubilee National Hospital (GJNH) until 30 June 2004.

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 November 30, 2003

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

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

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

Table 1 - All Trusts

OVER 9 MONTH WAITS	ASC Code							Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	X	
Patients Waiting	2,883	52	1,213	1,004	151	1,297	na	6,600
% Distribution by ASC	44%	1%	18%	15%	2%	20%	na	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	79%				21%			

Table 2 - All Trusts

UNDER 9 MONTH WAITS	ASC Code							Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	X	
Patients Waiting	1,627	53	316	941	0	835	na	3,772
% Distribution by ASC	43%	1%	8%	25%	0%	22%	na	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	90%				10%			

Table 3 - All Trusts

ALL WAITS	ASC Code							Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	X	
Patients Waiting	4,510	105	1,529	1,945	151	2,132	na	10,372
% Distribution by ASC	43%	1%	15%	19%	1%	21%	na	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	83%				17%			

Note - ASC temporary code X is not applicable effective from October 2003.

WEEKLY WAITING TIME COMPARISON - >9 MONTH WAITS (WITH NO ASCs)

