

## Greater Glasgow NHS Board

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, 17th February, 2004

Board Paper No. 2004/12

Director of Planning and Community Care

## WAITING TIMES

### Recommendation:

Members are asked to note progress.

#### A. BACKGROUND

At the January 2004 meeting, the Board noted that the national targets that we now need to address are:

- No inpatient/day case waits in excess of 6 months to be achieved by December 2005
- No outpatient waits in excess of 26 weeks to be achieved by December 2005
- Also, to continue to deliver and sustain all existing targets and guarantees e.g. cancer and CHD specific

We propose to change our reporting format from monitoring >9 month waits to 6 to 9 month waits for inpatients and day cases. As before, we will present this separately for residents without ASCs and those with ASCs. Over the coming months we will develop this further to include outpatients and performance against the targets as set out in our plans for 2004/05.

#### The Challenge ahead

It is considered that sustaining the 9 month maximum wait guarantee is a major challenge. Also, the move towards delivering a 6 month maximum wait in a constrained resource environment will be serious problem, when set alongside the outpatient target.

#### B. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR INPATIENTS AND DAY CASES

- The provisional waiting list position at January 31 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 - Current waiting time in months - All NHS Board residents without ASCs

Trust	0 - 3	3 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 9	>9	Total	>6
North	7,791	2,745	531	417	179	0	11,663	1,127
South	3,883	2,325	383	279	134	0	7,004	796
Yorkhill	1,120	555	68	74	37	0	1,854	179
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,794</b>	<b>5,625</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,521</b>	<b>2,102</b>

**EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.**

Table 2 – Current waiting time in months - All NHS Board residents with ASCs

<b>Trust</b>	<b>0 - 3</b>	<b>3 - 6</b>	<b>6 - 7</b>	<b>7 - 8</b>	<b>8 - 9</b>	<b>&gt;9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>&gt;6</b>
North	668	713	185	259	276	4,367	6,468	5,087
South	224	377	127	168	170	2,273	3,339	2,738
Yorkhill	163	167	63	44	39	346	822	492
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>6,986</b>	<b>10,629</b>	<b>8,317</b>

Note - the total of 10,629 above does not reconcile with the total of 10,664 in schedule 2 (10,629 excludes 35 patients at Yorkhill where the waiting time is not known at present - to be corrected).

**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 January 31, 2004

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.

**Plans - 2004/05**

In conjunction with the Trusts, we are now preparing our plans for incremental performance improvement in waiting times in 2004/05, towards achieving the December 2005 targets.

**National Waiting Time Unit (NWTU) - Additional funding for quarter 4, 2003/04**

We have been allocated non-recurrent funding of £1.4m to deliver additional activity, both in-house and in the private sector, by the end of March. This will allow us to sustain the guarantee of no waits in excess of 9 months and will also allow us to move towards delivering the new targets in the period to March 2004.

Director of Planning and Community Care

0141 201 4607

**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 – JANUARY 31, 2004**

(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	2,996	49	1,286	1,123	137	1,395	na	6,986
% Distribution by ASC	43%	1%	18%	16%	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**

<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	1,598	93	239	931	0	717	na	3,678
% Distribution by ASC	43%	3%	6%	25%	0%	22%	na	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	4,594	142	1,525	2,054	137	2,212	na	10,664
% Distribution by ASC	43%	1%	14%	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.