

Greater Glasgow NHS Board

Board Meeting

Tuesday, 17th May, 2005

Board Paper No. 2005/43

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 26 weeks 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

B. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR INPATIENTS AND DAY CASES

- The numbers of patients waiting over 26 weeks at April 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.

Table 1 - Current numbers waiting >26 weeks - All NHS Board residents without ASCs

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Apr-05	Mar - Apr Variance	% Variance
North	202	241	+39	+19%
South	231	187	-44	-19%
Yorkhill	98	119	+21	+21%
Total	531	547	+16	+3%

Over 26 week waits increased by 16 or 3% between March and April. In context, the actual at March was 169 or 24% less than the planned position of 700 - the actual at April is still less than this. This rise is within our expectations - please refer to Section D - Planning for 2005/06.

EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.

Table 2 - Current numbers waiting >26 weeks - All NHS Board residents with ASCs

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Apr-05	Mar - Apr Variance	% Variance
North	4,582	4,498	-84	-2%
South	2,684	2,817	+133	+5%
Yorkhill	733	720	-13	-2%
Total	7,999	8,035	+36	<1%

The number of patients waiting over 26 weeks with ASC codes marginally increased by 36 or <1% between March and April.

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 April 30, 2005

C. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR NEW OUTPATIENTS

Currently there are 8,331 outpatients waiting longer than the National target of a 26 week maximum wait - this reduced by 698 or 8% between March and April.

We reported to the Board in October 2004 that we are working on plans to eliminate all waits over 52 weeks as a first step to achieving our targets. In August 2004, the numbers waiting over 52 weeks was 6,756 - this has now reduced to 2,385 at the end of April 2005 - a reduction of 4,371 or 65%.

Table 3 - Current numbers waiting >26 weeks - All NHS Board residents - GP/GDP Referrals

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Apr-05	Mar - Apr Variance	% Variance
North	7,042	6,049	-993	-14%
South	1,987	2,269	+282	+14%
Yorkhill	0	13	+13	na
Total	9,029	8,331	-698	-8%

Note - The South and Yorkhill Divisions include all referrals sources, which are presented as a proxy for GP/GDP referrals - at present GP/GDP referrals cannot be shown separately.

D. PLANNING FOR 2005/06

By December 2005, NHSGG will have no patient waiting beyond 26 weeks for an outpatient appointment or for the subsequent inpatient/day case treatment that may be required.

To achieve this, we have submitted our milestones for waiting time performance improvement to the National Waiting Times Unit - for the quarters ending June and September 2005. The plans will ensure that we continue to phase the reduction in waiting times so that we both deliver the December 2005 target and are well placed to sustain it thereafter. The planning milestones for 2005/06 are set out in the tables below.

Table 4 - Outpatients Waiting >26 weeks - Planning Milestones 2005/06

Division	Actual		Milestones		
	Dec-04	Mar-05	Jun-05	Sep-05	Dec-05
North	10,292	7,042	4,685	2,343	0
South	3,042	1,987	1,915	1,335	0
Yorkhill	56	0	0	0	0
Total	13,390	9,029	6,600	3,678	0

Table 5 - Inpatients/day cases Waiting >26 weeks - Planning Milestones 2005/06

Division	Actual		Milestones		
	Dec-04	Mar-05	Jun-05	Sep-05	Dec-05
North	411	202	282	170	0
South	491	231	217	160	0
Yorkhill	373	98	61	28	0
Total	1,275	531	560	358	0

Inpatients/day cases show a small rise in the overall numbers waiting beyond 26 weeks at June 2005. This rise is within our expectations for how activity and waiting lists will move to June 2005. It should particularly be seen in the context of our performance against the March 2005 milestone, where we delivered 531 against a plan of 700.

E. NEW WAITING TIME TARGETS

We reported to the Board in February on a series on a series of new waiting time targets to be delivered by the end of 2007.

We are currently setting about the task of developing our next set of waiting times capacity plans to take this forward - as part of the 2005/06 Local Health Planning process. This is with an initial understanding of the resources that will be made available centrally to help to support that effort. As this funding availability becomes clearer, we will have further details to report to future Board meetings.

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
ALL DIVISIONS, NORTH, SOUTH AND YORKHILL - APRIL 30, 2005**

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

Table 1 - All Divisions

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	4,832	296	1,120	2,027	0	2,486	10,761
% Distribution by ASC	45%	3%	10%	19%	0%	23%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	87%			13%			

Table 2 - North Glasgow Division (NGD)

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	2,759	0	465	1,199	0	1,639	6,062
% Distribution by ASC	46%	0%	8%	20%	0%	27%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	92%			8%			

Table 3 - South Glasgow Division (SGD)

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	1,832	0	462	564	0	755	3,613
% Distribution by ASC	51%	0%	13%	15%	0%	21%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	87%			13%			

Table 4 - Yorkhill

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	241	296	193	264	0	92	1,086
% Distribution by ASC	22%	27%	18%	24%	0%	8%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	55%			45%			