

Greater Glasgow NHS Board

Board Meeting

Tuesday, 26th July, 2005

Board Paper No. 2005/53

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 June 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	May-05	Jun-05	May - Jun Variance	% Variance
North	202	275	141	-134	-49%
South	231	163	92	-71	-44%
Yorkhill	98	112	49	-63	-56%
Total	531	550	282	-268	-49%

Over 26 week waits decreased by 268 or 49% between May and June. Also, please refer to Section D - Performance against June 2005 planning milestone.

EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.

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

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	May-05	Jun-05	May - Jun Variance	% Variance
North	4,582	4,372	4,076	-296	-8%
South	2,684	2,816	2,753	-63	-2%
Yorkhill	733	739	727	-12	-2%
Total	7,999	7,927	7,556	-371	-5%

The number of patients waiting over 26 weeks with ASC codes decreased by 371 or 5% between May and June.

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 June 30, 2005

C. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR NEW OUTPATIENTS

Currently there are 6,513 outpatients waiting longer than the National target of a 26 week maximum wait - this reduced by 1,076 or 14% between May and June.

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 1,471 at the end of June 2005 - a reduction of 5,285 or 78%.

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

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	May-05	Jun-05	May - Jun Variance	% Variance
North	7,042	5,242	4,242	-1,000	-19%
South	1,987	2,264	2,191	-73	-3%
Yorkhill	0	83	80	-3	-4%
Total	9,029	7,589	6,513	1,076	-14%

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. PERFORMANCE AGAINST JUNE 2005 MILESTONE

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 performance against the June 2005 milestones is set out in the tables below.

Table 4 - Outpatients Waiting >26 weeks - Performance against June 2005 Milestone

Division	Plan	Actual	Variance	% Variance
North	4,685	4,242	-443	-9%
South	1,915	2,191	+276	+14%
Yorkhill	0	80	+80	na
Total	6,600	6,513	-87	-1%

The pan Glasgow June milestone was achieved albeit that two of the Divisions were over target, however, this should be viewed also in the context of the inpatient/day case performance that was achieved.

Table 5 – Inpatients/day cases Waiting >26 weeks - Performance against June 2005 Milestone

Division	Plan	Actual	Variance	% Variance
North	282	141	-141	-50%
South	217	92	-125	-58%
Yorkhill	61	49	-12	-20%
Total	560	282	-278	-50%

The June milestone was achieved across all three Divisions and is now currently 50% below target.

E. NEW WAITING TIME TARGETS

New 9 week diagnostic standards

We reported to the Board in February on a series of new waiting time targets to be delivered by the end of 2007. Subsequent to this, for the first time, new standards have been set for patients waiting for diagnostic tests and procedures, The new 9 week maximum wait diagnostic standards were announced in June by the Health Minister. This means patients will wait no longer than 18 weeks - including diagnostic tests - as outpatients or inpatient/day cases by the end of 2007. The new standards apply to CT, MRI, ultrasound and barium scans as well as four procedures using an endoscope or micro camera to look inside the body: upper endoscopy, cystoscopy, sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy.

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 - JUNE 30, 2005**
(To be read in conjunction with ASC definitions - see Schedule 1)

Table 1 - All Divisions

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						
	2	3	4	8	9	A	Total
Patients Waiting	5,011	293	1,060	1,965	0	2,446	10,775
% Distribution by ASC	47%	3%	10%	18%	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						
	2	3	4	8	9	A	Total
Patients Waiting	2,739	0	431	1,060	0	1,585	5,815
% Distribution by ASC	47%	0%	7%	18%	0%	27%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs		
	93%				7%		

Table 3 - South Glasgow Division (SGD)

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						
	2	3	4	8	9	A	Total
Patients Waiting	2,028	0	470	642	0	758	3,898
% Distribution by ASC	52%	0%	12%	16%	0%	19%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs		
	88%				12%		

Table 4 - Yorkhill

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						
	2	3	4	8	9	A	Total
Patients Waiting	244	293	159	263	0	103	1,062
% Distribution by ASC	23%	28%	15%	25%	0%	10%	0%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs				Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs		
	57%				43%		