

Greater Glasgow NHS Board

Board Meeting

Tuesday, 20th September, 2005

Board Paper No. 2005/64

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 August 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.

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

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Jul-05	Aug-05	Jul - Aug Variance	% Variance
North	202	116	199	+83	+72%
South	231	125	135	+10	+8%
Yorkhill	98	77	77	0	0%
Total	531	318	411	+93	+29%

Over 26 week waits increased by 93 or 29% between July and August. This is part of the annual cyclical process at this time of the year. We plan to reduce from the August position of 411 to 358 at the end of September to achieve our next planning milestone.

EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.

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

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Jul-05	Aug-05	Jul - Aug Variance	% Variance
North	4,582	3,996	3,764	-232	-6%
South	2,684	2,735	2,744	+9	0%
Yorkhill	733	734	746	+12	+2%
Total	7,999	7,465	7,254	-211	-3%

The number of patients waiting over 26 weeks with ASC codes decreased by 211 or 3% between July and August.

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 August 31, 2005

C. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR NEW OUTPATIENTS

Base on the latest position to July 31, there are 6,435 outpatients waiting longer than the National target of a 26 week maximum wait - this reduced by 109 or 2% between June and July.

We will report on the latest waiting time for over 52 weeks waits to the October Board meeting.

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

Division	Mar-05 Baseline	Jun-05	Jul-05	Jun - Jul Variance	% Variance
North	7,042	4,242	4,252	+10	0%
South	1,987	2,222	2,087	-135	-6%
Yorkhill	0	80	96	+16	+20%
Total	9,029	6,544	6,435	-109	-2%

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 SEPTEMBER 2005 MILESTONE

We will provide details of performance against the September planning milestone to the October Board meeting.

E. ABOLITION OF AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES

Ministers attach considerable importance to their commitment to abolish ASCs, and in the course of the annual Accountability Reviews (across NHS Scotland) the Health Minister has asked for an assurance from Board Chairmen that Boards are adhering to the 30 March guidance issued by the Scottish Executive Health Department (SEHD) for abolishing ASCs.

The SEHD have now followed this up as set out below:

- By providing NHSGG with the Department's comments on the plans that we sent to them for implementing Ministers' decision to abolish ASCs, announced in "Fair to All, Personal to Each" last December;
- By proposing that we performance manage our use of ASCs from now to the end of 2007 by tracking actual use against a planned profile - a proposal for a planned profile was suggested by the SEHD for discussion;
- By asking NHSGG for information about which groups of staff within the Board take decisions to apply ASCs, and what training they receive to carry out this task; and
- By suggesting that we have a discussion with the SEHD soon to agree the action needed to deliver Ministers' target of abolition of ASCs by end December 2007.

We will report on our progress in moving forward each of the above tasks, with particular reference to points two and four, 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 - AUGUST 31, 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	4,612	288	1,177	1,918	0	2,473	10,468
% Distribution by ASC	44%	3%	11%	18%	0%	24%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	86%			14%			

Table 2 - North Glasgow Division (NGD)

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	2,521	0	389	982	0	1,531	5,423
% Distribution by ASC	46%	0%	7%	18%	0%	28%	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						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	1,884	0	609	661	0	828	3,982
% Distribution by ASC	47%	0%	15%	17%	0%	21%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	85%			15%			

Table 4 - Yorkhill

ALL WAITS	ASC Code						Total
	2	3	4	8	9	A	
Patients Waiting	207	288	179	275	0	114	1,063
% Distribution by ASC	19%	27%	17%	26%	0%	11%	100%
% Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven	Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs			Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs			
	56%			44%			