

Core brief

Thursday, 22 December 2016

Introduction

This issue of Core Brief details NHSGGC press releases on: Measures to improve performance in emergency departments, beware of button batteries and drop in suicides welcomed.

NHSGGC putting in place measures to improve performance in emergency departments

NHSGGC has agreed a series of measures with the Scottish Government designed to improve performance across the health board's emergency departments and reassure patients that their safety will not be compromised.

While these measures are put in place, and a comprehensive review of unscheduled care is carried out by the board's deputy medical director, the board is advising patients they may experience longer than usual waits in emergency departments over the busy winter period. [Click here to read the full press release.](#)

Beware of button batteries

As the big day approaches, NHSGGC has issued a stark warning to parents over the risks to children of button batteries.

Button batteries are often contained in toys and cards – and therefore many more may be found around the home at Christmas.

If swallowed, they can have devastating consequences for children, causing severe burns to the internal tissues. Often the damage to the child's oesophagus, or gullet, can be extensive and they can require years of treatment. In extreme cases, they can be lethal. [Click here to read the full press release.](#)

Drop in suicides welcomed

Suicide rates in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area are at their lowest for more than 30 years, and are around half of what they were in 1993. We have been working hard to reduce suicide rates amongst our residents and have a range of prevention programmes - with a wide range of partners - to address many of the associated risk factors for suicide.

The figures were shared at the Board meeting this week as part of a wider update on progress with suicide prevention efforts. [Click here to read the full press release.](#)