Disclaimer

England

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Scotland

1. The Admission statistics are derived from data collected on discharges from non-obstetric and non-psychiatric hospitals (SMR01) in Scotland. Only patients treated as inpatients or day cases are included. The specialty of geriatric long stay is excluded.

2. Data relate to all patients treated by the NHS in Scotland

3. Data are based on date of discharge.

4. The basic unit of analysis for the Admissions data (except patient count) is a Continuous Inpatient Stay (CIS) in hospital - Probability matching methods have been used to link together individual SMR01 hospitals episodes for each patient, thereby creating "linked" patient histories. Within these patient histories, SMR01 episodes are grouped according to whether they form part of a continuous spell of treatment (whether or not this involves transfer between specialties, consultants, hospitals or health boards). This is to allow for an accurate count of readmissions.

5. An emergency admission occurs when, for clinical reasons, a patient is admitted at the earliest possible time after seeing a doctor. The patient may or may not be admitted through Accident & Emergency. Coding rules state that a Day Case patient should not be admitted as an emergency.

6. Patients - This relates to an individual patient. However, the same patient can be counted more than once, this occurs if they change specialty or NHS Board. The same patient can also be counted more than once if they have admissions in multiple years, for example if a patient was admitted in 2000 and 2001 they would be counted in each of these years.

7. An elective (planned) admission occurs when a patient has already been given a date to come to hospital for some kind of planned procedure. Elective patients can be seen as Day cases or Inpatients.

8. A transfer occurs when a patient who has already been admitted to hospital is either transferred to a different specialty or hospital, and will be part of the same continuous inpatient stay. Transfers have been defined as non-elective admissions in this analysis.

9. A hospital stay is defined as an elective/non-elective admission using the admission type recorded in the first episode of the stay.

10. A zero-day admission is defined as a non-elective admission with length of stay equal to 0 days.

11. A hospital stay is selected if any of the specified diagnoses are recorded in the first episode of the stay.

12. A readmission is defined as a non-elective admission within 28 days for the same patient where the diagnosis grouping (any position in the first episode) is the same as the primary diagnosis grouping in the first episode of the preceding admission.

13. Primary Diagnosis refers to main diagnosis variable. Secondary Diagnosis refers to diagnosis 2-6 variables. All diagnosis refers to diagnosis 1-6 variables.

14. Up to six diagnoses (one principal diagnosis and five secondary diagnoses) may be recorded per hospital episode, using the International Classification of Disease Codes, Tenth Revision (ICD-10). All six diagnostic positions were used to identify the relevant cases.

15. These data have been adjusted to conform to ISD's Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol (http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/Confidentiality/Disclosure-Protocol-Version-2-3_webversion.pdf). * Indicates values that have been suppressed due to the potential risk of disclosure and to help maintain patient confidentiality.

Source: SMR01 (Hospital Admissions), Information Services Division (ISD) Scotland