2015-19 JSNA

Emergency Department (ED) Data

September 2016
Emergency Department Attendances (A&E)

Background
- A&E attendances give evidence about the acute demands for health care.
- Analysis of attendance can give indications of the patterns of illness and of injuries and also demonstrates the use of the health service.

Summary
There are around 94,000 ED Attendances made by Stockport residents each year.

75% of these attendances are made at Stockport NHS FT, with a further 11% at South Manchester and 8% at Central Manchester.

Like admissions, the pattern of A&E of use varies across the borough so that in Heald Green and Gately fewer than 10% of attendances are at Stockport, and 75% are at South Manchester.

50% of these attendances result in a discharge either with no follow up (39%) or with a follow up in primary care (12%).

30% result in admissions to hospital as an inpatient and 15% with a discharge with a follow up appointment in acute care (e.g. outpatients).

4% of attendances result in patients leaving before treatment.
Rates of ED attendance have been increasing steadily over the last decade, with an increase every year apart from 2013/14.

Benchmarking data for activity volumes over time are not readily available so direct comparisons to other areas are not possible on this measure – however national trends have also been for an increase in demand.
Emergency Department Attendances (A&E) – trends by age

Rates of ED attendance peak at ages:
- 0 - 1 years
- 18 - 29 years
- and from ages 65 onwards they rise steadily

Rates of ED attendance are far higher than rates of inpatient admissions up to the age of 65, from this point on they converge

Trends of ED attendance by deprivation show a similar pattern as admissions with rates far higher in the most deprived areas at all ages.
Emergency Department Attendances (A&E) – other trends

Comparison of trends between Stockport NHS Foundation Trust and other ED departments shows that:

- Locally a far higher proportion of attendances result in admission than is average – 30% compared to 21% nationally.

- The length of time people spend in ED in Stockport is on average longer than both England and Greater Manchester – fewer people are seen and discharged within an hour and more stay within the department for 4 hours or more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013/14 ED Attendances by method of discharge</th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Greater Manchester</th>
<th>Stockport NHS Foundation Trust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admitted</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharged – GP follow up</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharged – no follow up</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are two distinct patterns between those who are discharged from ED and those who are admitted. The majority of those who are discharged leave between 60 to 129 minutes after their attendance begins (one third – 22,000 patients), 92% are discharged within 4 hours. This contrasts with those destined to be admitted; for this cohort, admission numbers are low at first but escalate rapidly as the four-hour target approaches. 43% of all those admitted from ED leave between 3 and 4 hours of their arrival (12,600 patients).
More detailed segmentation shows how this varies across the age groups. Two thirds of the youngest cohort are assessed and discharged within 2 - 2½ hours compared with 17% in the oldest cohort. 60% of the oldest cohort and not dealt with until the 4 hour deadline approaches (between 2 and 4 hours after arrival).
Data for attendances resulting in admission also demonstrates this pattern to a certain extent. Children who are admitted are done quicker than adults of working age and older people, who wait for their transfer to occur. For those who are destined to be admitted in the very oldest age group, just over 2000 attendees (21%) are admitted within ten minutes of the 4-hours. Children aged 0-14 are processed quicker and almost 57% are admitted within 3 hours of first arriving at A&E.
Just over a third of children under 1 attending ED are admitted. This falls to a quarter for one year olds and a fifth for two year olds. The decline in admission rates continues to fall through early childhood to a low of 8.8% for ten year olds. From the age of 11 the rate rises all the way to the end of life. The rate begins to rise rapidly in the 60s and by the age of 61 the rate of admission is higher than for children under 1 and never drops below. By the age of 72 until the end of life the patient is more likely to be admitted than discharged, with the exception of those aged 74. There were almost 20,000 ED attendances by those aged 70+ in 2015-16, 11,500 were admitted meaning 6 out of 10 patients in this cohort were admitted.
During the week (Mon-Fri) data at Stepping Hill Hospital seems to show two consistent peaks in demand. There is a peak in the late morning to early afternoon, typically between the hours of 10:00 and 13:59, and then another peak around early evening, between 18:00 and 21:00. At the weekend demand is fairly consistent between 10:00 and 15:59. The average length of wait shifts to the right of the peaks in demand as the accumulative effect of high numbers over a sustained period causes backlogs. The average wait time at Stepping Hill breached 4 hours in 18 different time sectors in 2015-16, most notably in the period between Monday at 22:00 and Tuesday at 04:59. Breaches were most likely to occur between 23:00 and 03:59.
Attendances at University Hospital South Manchester (UHSM) by Stockport registered patients had the longest average wait in ED in two thirds of all time sectors in 2015-16. On the other hand those registered patients attending either Central Manchester University Hospital (CMUH) or any other site had the lowest average wait time in 93% of the time sectors. However people attending these hospitals only make up 15% of all Stockport registered ED attendances. Stepping Hill Hospital attendances make up the majority of the attendances and broadly follow the pattern of the other sites.