

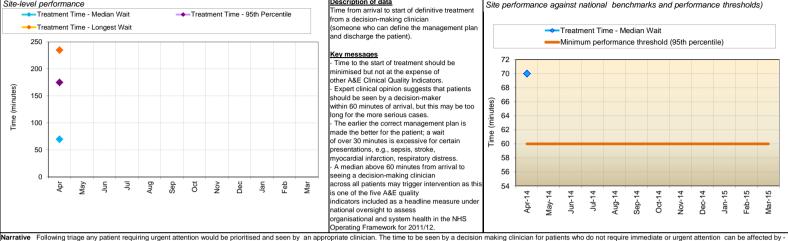
Time to Treatment in A&E [HQU13]

Time from arrival to start of definitive treatment from a decision-making clinician (someone who can define the management plan and discharge the patient).

Kev messages

Time to the start of treatment should be minimised but not at the expense of other A&E Clinical Quality Indicators Expert clinical opinion suggests that patients should be seen by a decision-maker within 60 minutes of arrival, but this may be too long for the more serious cases. The earlier the correct management plan is made the better for the patient; a wait of over 30 minutes is excessive for certain presentations, e.g., sepsis, stroke, nvocardial infarction, respiratory distress. A median above 60 minutes from arrival to seeing a decision-making clinician across all patients may trigger intervention as this is one of the five A&F quality ndicators included as a headline measure under national oversight to assess organisational and system health in the NHS Operating Framework for 2011/12.

the number of urgent cases, complexity of other cases in the department at the time, peaks in activity (both ER attenders and clinic patients), lack of available cubicles to review patients due to limited number of rooms available, depletion of medical staffing as they cross cover for the wards/ theatre. We continue to triage appropriately and expediate urgent cases that require immediate attention. Limited facilities will be addressed in our plans to relocate the ER to a larger location with improved environment/



70 Median this month

60 Target

Description of Performance

Data quality

Service experience

What have we done to understand and assess the experience of our patients from Oct 2013 to Dec 2013

ncrease in facilities. Medical staff cover has been highlighted as a risk to mainatining prompt review of patients, medical staff are at times called to higher clinical priorities.

 Nursing quality indicators are now embedded and monthly patient queestionnaires are undertaken and we plan to display results in the department. Display boards are now in place in the department to share feedback. These results will be monitored and reported to the Trust Plans- Action Plans will be generated by the department Manager and the ER team to address any deficits.

Family friendly questions are being asked and results are now available and published for ER. We are actively promoting feedback and have a kiosk now located outside the ER for feedback to be given. Social media, twitter is also being used to encourage our patients to give feedback about the ER Services. A text reminder is also being introduced

• Formal and informal issues raised through Complaints and PALS have been used to understand and assess the experience of patients attending the Emergency Room, patients are invited to board meeting to share their experiences

•Patient Stories continue to be shared with the Board and departmental staff and we working closely with patients whom are sharing their experiences, recordings of patients experiences are with consent being utilised to widen opportunities to learn from feedback

•NICE guideline on the management of early pregnancy have been released and the organistion has assessed compliance an action plan has been developed and new practice will be commencing in April 2014.

What were results of these assessments?

Facilities not always availbale when needed

Waiting times too long

Uncomfortable seating

Communication

•Waiting times for scans / inability to offer one stop scan

Reception privacy and confidentiality

What has been done to improve services in light of these results?

•Identified funding for additional nurses to be trained in scanning and working with colleagues in ultrasound to mentor nursing staff in early pregnancy scanning. Two additional members of our team have completed competencies and another member has commenced training

•NICE guidelines for the management of miscarriage have been assessed to understand compliance levels- Action plan to address non compliance

•Establishe d emergency follow up clinics for patient with pregnancy of unknown location, offering consistent approach with continuity and senior

Introduction of quality indicators that incorporate specific feedback relating to service experience, thus developing an ongoing feedback mechanism for patients, Displayed within department and disseminated to team members

Has this resulted in improved patient experience?

•Local ownership, department managers have increased involvement in problem solving and have ability to influence service provision at the point of

Flexible use of additional rooms/ resources.

Meanigful measurements in place, enabling benchmarking across Trust and Month on Month performance

Point of care testing aiiding prompt diagnosis and treatment

systems and processes in place to address feedback.