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Announcement of methodological change to NHS Outcomes Framework emergency admissions indicators

On 28th June, emergency admission indicators in the NHS Outcomes Framework will be published using a different calculation methodology. There are four emergency admissions indicators in the NHS Outcomes Framework.

- 2.3.i Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions (adults) (Age range: 19+)
- 2.3.ii Unplanned hospitalisation for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy in under 19s (Age range: <19)
- 3a Emergency admissions for acute conditions that should not usually require hospital admission (Age range: 19+)
- 3.2 Emergency admissions for children with lower respiratory tract infections (Age range: <19)

Across all breakdowns, all four are currently calculated as crude rates per 100,000 population.

From the next release onwards the indicators will be indirectly standardised by age and sex to aid comparison over time.

The person-based national indicator is standardised by age and sex using England age and sex rates as standards. A standardised ratio is calculated and converted into a rate by multiplying it by the overall event rate of patients in England. The gender-specific rates are standardised by age using person based standards, in order to highlight differences across gender.

The most recent complete financial year of England data is used as the standard. The back history would therefore be recalculated annually.