

Version 1, published 06 October 2016

## **Announcement of methodological changes to Seven-day Services, England, Experimental statistics: Emergency readmissions within seven days of discharge from hospital indicator**

The Seven-day Services indicators were initially published in September 2015 as experimental statistics to provide a starting point for discussions on how variation in care provision during the week could effectively be measured. Following initial feedback, minor changes were made to the emergency readmissions within seven days of discharge from hospital indicator prior to the January 2016 edition of this publication. Further details are available at <http://www.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/methchanges>.

Following discussions with the Department of Health (who are the sponsor for the seven-day services indicator set) and additional feedback from users, further changes have been made to the methodology used to calculate this indicator. The updated methodology will be used from the October 2016 edition of this publication.

In particular, risk adjustment will be applied to the data to account for variations in the case-mix of patients. Adjustments for the following factors will be included:

- the age of the patient
- the sex of the patient
- the condition the patient was in hospital for
- other underlying conditions the patient suffers from
- the ethnicity of the patient
- deprivation

For each NHS trust, the indicator will compare the odds of an emergency readmission within seven days of discharge for patients discharged on each day of the week (except Wednesday) to the odds of an emergency readmission within seven days of discharge for patients discharged on a Wednesday. The comparison is strictly within the same trust.

Detailed information on the construction of the indicator will be provided alongside the publication.

The indicator is independent of the overall readmission rate for the trust. For example, a trust with a high odds ratio for discharges on a Saturday versus discharges on a Wednesday may have a low overall readmission rate and vice-versa. Further information on how to appropriately interpret the indicator will be provided alongside the publication.

The number of discharges, number of associated emergency readmissions within seven days of discharge and crude emergency readmission rate will continue to be presented alongside the odds ratios as contextual information. The methodology used to calculate the crude readmission rate remains unchanged from the January 2016 edition of the publication.

The indicator includes emergency readmissions within seven days for all discharges. Contextual information on emergency readmissions within seven days for discharges following an emergency admission will also be presented in the October 2016 publication following feedback from users.

Questions and feedback on the publication are welcomed and should be sent to [enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk) or alternatively call 0300 303 5678.