



National Inpatient Network

About the network

Building on the pioneering National Diabetes Inpatient Audits of 2009 and 2010, NHS Diabetes is continuing to drive up quality in diabetes hospital care by launching a new inpatient network.

The virtual network was launched in September 2011. It provides an online forum to bring together healthcare professionals with a specific interest in inpatient care for people with diabetes. The network allows a two-way sharing of good practice and also provides news, updates and developments in this area.

We are working together to achieve better inpatient care, join our community and see how we can help you.

Network Lead: Ursula Anderson, NHS Diabetes Programme Manager

National Clinical Network Lead: Dr Gerry Rayman, National Clinical Lead for Inpatient Diabetes

Expert support: Dr Bob Young, National Diabetes Information Service (NDIS) Clinical Lead, and Nurse Consultant June James

Network objectives

We want to work with you to reduce variation of care and improve the quality of life and outcomes for people with diabetes. Specifically, our aims are to:

- Reduce variation in inpatient care
- Reduce medication errors in hospitals
- Raise inpatient diabetes care up the national policy agenda
- Present an economic argument for investing in specialist diabetes care in hospitals
- Develop core competencies for non-specialist healthcare professionals

How to join our network

We would like to know more about what you think the network should offer. To have your say follow the link below:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/NHSDiabetesInpatientNetwork

If you would like more information on our network, or would like to participate, contact project lead Ursula Anderson at ursula.anderson@diabetes.nhs.uk.

http://www.diabetes.nhs.uk/networks/inpatient_network/



Facing the Challenge

Inpatient diabetes: a summary

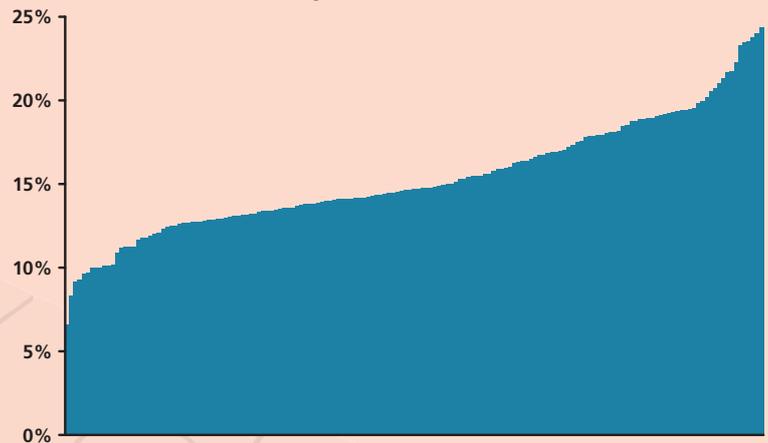
People with diabetes account for an average of 15 per cent of inpatients in England – and over one third experience at least one medication error while in hospital.

Patients with diabetes admitted for routine surgery stay on average 2.6 days longer than those without. It is estimated that prolonged stays in hospital among people with diabetes result in about 80,000 bed days per year.

KEY

Each block represents a participating trust

Prevalence of diabetes amongst inpatients by participating site in the 2010 National Diabetes Inpatient Audit



The audit identified a total of 12,191 people with diabetes. This represented 15.0% of all audited beds (obstetric, mental health and paediatric beds were excluded from the audit). At a site level there was considerable variation in the prevalence of diabetes (range 6.6% to 24.3%).



Inpatient care for people with diabetes: the economic case for change

Research by NHS Diabetes has found that the NHS in England spends more than £2.3 billion a year on inpatient care for people with diabetes. Of that, an estimated £600 million is excess spend – that is, over and above the sum spent on a population of the same age and gender without the condition.

However, the paper, titled *'The Economic Case for Change'*, also presents evidence that suggests specialist diabetes inpatient teams can improve outcomes for patients and generate savings that substantially outweigh the cost of such teams.

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