

# **ACT PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

Quarterly Performance Report

March 2014



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## **Introduction Summary**

This is the third Quarterly Report on ACT public health system performance for 2013–14. The format for the report provides readers with additional background information as well as a visual demonstration of the performance against existing targets and those implemented through the National Health Reform.

The quality and safety section of the report has expanded to encompass indicators such as the hospital acquired Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia Infection rate (SAB rate) and hand hygiene audit results which are now reported nationally on the My Hospitals website.

ACT Health has continued to develop reporting tools that support effective management of our available resources and ensure that clients within the ACT and surrounding region are able to gain access to services as well as information on the performance of healthcare services.

The report shows that the increased investment in the Territory's public health services is working to provide improved access to care.

Overall Emergency Department performance continued to improve over the first nine months of 2013–14 compared to the same period in 2012–13, with 61% of all patients seen on time. This result is a 10% improvement when compared to the same period last year and is significant given the 6% increase in presentations to ACT Emergency Departments.

For the first nine months of 2013–14, our bed occupancy rates were reported at 90% and are in line with the set target. This result is a 2% improvement when compared to the same period last year. The improved result over the first nine months of 2013–14 is directly related to investment in additional beds. In 2013–14, the ACT Government funded an additional 44 inpatient beds in ACT public hospitals. Once all beds have opened, this will take our public hospitals' estimated capacity to 1030 beds. This is an increase of 360 beds (or 54%) since 2001–02.

100% of all radiotherapy patients were seen within standard timeframes during the first nine months of 2013–14. This result is a slight improvement when compared with the result reported for the same period last year.

Based on preliminary data, a total of 3,855 babies were born at ACT public hospitals in the first nine months of 2013–14. This result is a 6% increase when compared to the result for the same period last year.

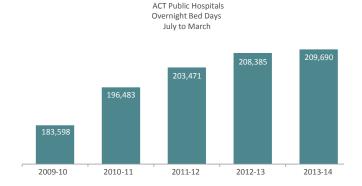
The average waiting time for public dental health services for the first nine months of 2013–14 was 5 months. This result is an impressive improvement on the 11 months figure reported for the same period last year.



## Our public hospitals

#### Increasing the capacity of the ACT Public Health Services to manage growing demand for hospital services

For the first nine months of 2013–14, ACT's public hospitals provided over 209,690 overnight hospital bed days of care, slightly up on the result of 208,385 reported for the same period last year. The Australian Hospital Statistics Report for 2012–13 issued by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in April 2014 showed that the ACT reached 2.5 public hospital beds per 1000 people—which is just below the Australian national average of 2.6 hospital beds per 1000 people.



The AIHW reported that in 2012–13, ACT public hospitals provided an average of 986 beds. In 2012–13, an additional 47 beds were introduced and there was a considerable expansion to the Hospital in the Home service, with the addition of 15 bed equivalents.



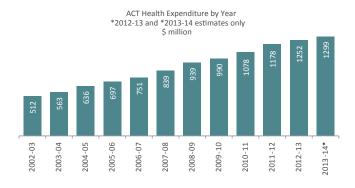
\* 2013-14 figures provides estimated impact of Government investment in additional capacity Source: Australian Hospital Statistics . AIHW. 2001-2002 to 2012-13 publications

The ACT Government has funded a further 44 inpatient beds in 2013–14, including:

- 16 general inpatient beds at Canberra Hospital
- 15 general inpatient beds at Calvary Public Hospital
- an 8-bed Rapid Assessment and Planning Unit at Calvary Public Hospital
- 5 new beds in the completed Centenary Hospital for Women and Children.

With this addition our public hospitals' estimated capacity will be 1,030 beds. It is expected that all the additional 44 beds will become available by August 2014. This is an increase of 360 beds since 2001-02, or a 54% increase over twelve years.

The ACT Government continues its commitment to adding bed capacity to the public hospital system to meet growing demand for care and to reduce bed occupancy to optimum levels.



The increase in bed capacity has been funded by the biggest increases in health funding by any ACT Government. The estimated budget for this financial year (2013–14) is over \$1.2 billion which is 153% more than the \$512 million provided for health services in 2002–03.

This funding has met the cost of additional specialist clinical staff and supplies, and funded initiatives aimed at better systems and processes to improve access to services and the quality of those services.

The bed occupancy rate for the first nine months of 2013–14 was 90%. This is a 2% improvement when compared to the 92% reported for the same period last year. The Australian Government's long-term target is to maintain bed occupancy levels at around 85%, which is considered the best level for best patient outcomes and to achieve maximum efficiency. However, with increasing pressure on ACT public hospitals each year, the ACT target for this indicator in 2013–14 has been revised to 90%.

This recognises a more realistic target in the transition period while the necessary infrastructure and process improvements take effect which will allow ACT public hospitals to achieve the 85% in coming years. The additional 44 beds funded in the 2013–14 budget should assist in reducing bed occupancy rates.

## Our public hospitals (continued)

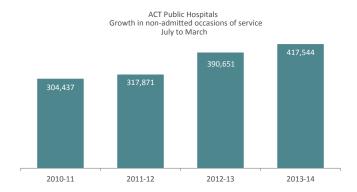
#### Our public hospital activity

	July to March				
	2010–11	2011–12	2012-13	2013-14	
Overnight bed occupancy rate	88%	89%	92%	90%	
Inpatient episodes of care	69,387	73,353	70,604	72,328	
Non-same day bed days	196,483	203,471	208,385	209,690	
Non-admitted (outpatient) occasions of service	304,437	317,871	390,651	417,544	

Over recent years, there have been significant increases in the demand for non-admitted outpatient services.

In 2011–12, Outpatient Services experienced 4% growth in outpatient occasions of service compared with 2010–11. In response to this growth, resources have been committed to improve the function and processes of outpatient services at both public hospitals. ACT Health is expecting 2013–14 to be another busy year for outpatient services with 417,544 non admitted occasions of service reported for the first nine months of 2013–14, a 7% increase on the 390,651 reported for the same period last year.

Outpatients services for 2012–13 and 2013–14 now encompass all non-admitted activity, including activity provided off campus in the community health spectrum. This change in counting methodology, which was driven by the implementation and adoption of activity based funding under the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) means reliable comparisons of outpatients/non-admitted data can no longer be made with previous years.



## Births at ACT public hospitals

#### Births increasing in ACT public hospitals

ACT public hospitals accommodated record numbers of births in 2012–13, with 4,857 births at Canberra and Calvary Hospitals, an 8% increase on the 2011–12 result. The result of 4,857 births in 2012–13 also represents a 70% growth (almost 2,000 additional births) in the number of ACT public hospital births since 2001–02.

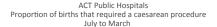
Based on preliminary data, a total of 3,855 babies were born at ACT public hospitals over the first nine months of 2013–14 which is a 6% increase on the result reported for the same period in 2012-13. However, a final result will not be available until all medical records have been fully processed. As this can take some time, the reported result should be noted as preliminary only at this stage.

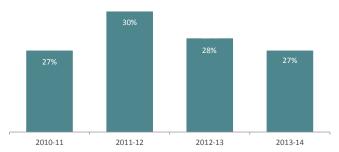
#### ACT public hospital births and Caesarean sections

	July to March				
	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	
ACT Public births*	3,172	3,383	3,620	3,855	
Caesarean sections	846	1,005	1,022	1,051	

For the first nine months of 2013–14, the number of births by Caesarean section was 27% of all births during 2013–14. This result is 1% lower than for the same period in 2012–13.

However, Caesarean rates have been steadily rising since 2001— both in the ACT and nationally. The ACT rate of 27% for the first nine months of 2013–14 was lower than most recent national figures published by the AIHW, for 2012–13. ACT public hospitals continue to have a low Caesarean rate compared to benchmarking hospitals. ACT public hospitals are moving towards further implementation of the 'continuity of maternity model of care' which has proven improved clinical outcomes for women—including a reduced rate of Caesareans.





The ACT Government provided an additional \$2 million in 2010–11 and \$1.5 million in 2011–12 to enhance obstetric and gynaecological services and neonatal services. The Continuity at the Canberra Hospital (CatCH) Program began in 2011 as a second continuity-of-care model at Canberra Hospital. In March 2014, a Community Midwifery Program (CMP) at Calvary Public Hospital has been established to further enhance obstetric services at Calvary.



#### **Emergency Departments**

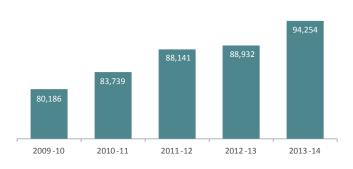
# ED waiting times continued to improve during the third quarter of 2013–14

In this edition of the ACT Public Hospitals Quarterly report, ACT Health presents the results of a new analysis of the difference between hospitals across the ACT and Australia and relates their performance to important factors that can influence a patient's experience in the Emergency Department (ED).

ACT Health is committed to improving waiting times in our emergency department services.

In 2012–13, emergency department presentations continued to grow compared to previous years, with a record 118,969 presentations recorded at ACT Public Hospital emergency departments. There has been a 24% increase in emergency department presentations from 2002-03 to 2012–13, which equates to an extra 22,820 presentations over ten years.

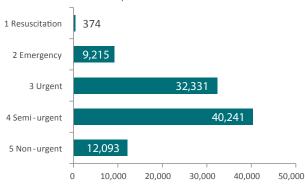
ACT Public Hospitals
All presentations to the Emergency Department
July to March



ACT Public Hospital emergency departments in 2013–14 are again dealing with unprecedented levels of patients presenting to ACT ED's, with a record 94,254 presentations recorded for the first nine months of 2013–14, a 6% increase when compared to the same period last year. In March 2014 there were 11,321 emergency department presentations, the highest number of ED presentations in a month, on record.

Attendances at ACT emergency departments by triage category

July to March 2014



A breakdown of emergency attendance figures shows that patients in the resuscitation category (triage 1) accounted for less than 1% of all people triaged in ACT EDs; 10% were triaged in the emergency category (triage 2); 34% were categorised as urgent (triage 3); 43% were semi-urgent (triage 4); and 13% were non-urgent (triage 5).

The greatest increase in percentage terms was in the non-urgent (triage 5) category. With this cohort of patients recording a 39% increase in presentations, there is an increase of extra 3,362 attendances to the ED compared to the same period last year.

However, in terms of actual attendances, the urgent category (triage 3) reported a 10% increase and semi-urgent (triage 4) is consistent with the number of attendances reported for the same period last year.

	July to March				
ED Activity	2010-11	2011–12	2012-13	2013–14	
Admissions via the ED	19,720	22,654	23,208	25,499	
Patients treated and discharged	64,019	65,481	65,724	68,756	
Patients that did not wait to be seen	8,813	6,196	6,951	5,161	

There are different ways that a patient can leave the ED. The majority of patients leave the ED after their treatment is completed or when they are admitted to hospital. Some patients choose not to wait to begin or complete treatment or are transferred to other hospitals.

Admissions to hospital via the emergency department have also grown, with 25,499 recorded for the first nine months of 2013–14 — 10% increase compared to the 23,208 reported for the same period last year.

Despite the increase in presentations, the 'did not wait' rate continued to decrease over the first nine months of 2013–14, with a result of 5% reported. This result is a 3% improvement when compared to the same period last year.

Overall timeliness for all triage categories to be seen on time improved significantly over the first nine months of 2013–14 with a result of 61%. This result is a 10% improvement when compared to the same period last year and shows that even with a record increase in demand, ACT Public Hospital EDs are attending to patients as quickly as possible whilst ensuring that patients get the best possible care.

While the rate of growth of triage category 1 patients (3%) has been lower than overall growth in emergency department presentations (6%), any increase in higher acuity presentations places additional pressure on emergency department resources, and can restrict the ability to see and treat lower acuity presentations in a timely manner.



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## **Emergency Departments (continued)**

#### **ED** timeliness

Emergency department	July to March			
presentation seen on time	2012-13	2013–14	Target	
Category 1 (immediately)	100%	100%	100%	
Category 2 (<10 mins)	71%	82%	80%	
Category 3 (<30 mins)	42%	49%	75%	
Category 4 (<60 mins)	46%	57%	70%	
Category 5 (<120 mins)	78%	86%	70%	
Total All Categories	51%	61%	70%	

All triage categories recorded improved performance results over the first nine months of 2013-14 when compared to the same period last year.

National targets were met for triage category one, two and five patients. This is now the third consecutive quarter where triage category two timeliness has achieved the desired target. Category five continued to exceed national benchmarks, with 86% of this cohort seen on time. This is despite a 39% increase in category five patient presentations during the first nine months of 2013–14. This is significant improvement for the ACT emergency departments and shows that the recent initiatives are starting to take effect.

The following table shows the median waiting times for patients to be seen from when they first present to an ACT public hospital emergency department to when treatment first commences. The second table provides some examples of the Australian Triage Scale.

#### Waiting time to be seen in ACT public hospital EDs

	Triage category						
Waiting time between earliest event in episode and seen time	Resuscitation – Immediate within seconds	Emergency <= 10 mins	Urgent <= 30 mins	Semi-urgent <= 60 mins	Non-Urgent <= 120 mins	Total	
	Median	Median	Median	Median	Median	Median	
July to March 2013–14	0:00:00	0:04:00	0:31:00	0:49:00	0:37:00	0:32:00	
July to March 2012–13	0:00:00	0:06:00	0:41:00	1:10:00	0:51:00	0:44:00	

#### ED triage examples

Triage Category	Australian Triage Scale	Common examples
Triage category 1	Resuscitation	Critical injury, cardiac arrest
Triage category 2	Emergency	Chest pain, severe burns
Triage category 3	Urgent	Moderate blood loss, dehydration
Triage category 4	Semi-Urgent	Sprained ankle, earache
Triage category 5	Non-Urgent	Small cuts or abrasions

Over the first nine months of 2013–14, all triage categories reported reduced waiting times. This is a positive result for the ACT. The highest volume category of patients that presented to ACT emergency departments were classed as triage category 4. Additionally the majority of these patients (73%) were treated and discharged (not requiring admission to an inpatient bed). This large cohort of patients and the increase in triage category 5 patients suggests that more people are presenting to the emergency department for treatment that could have been treated by their general practitioner.

According to the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW) report titled *Australian hospital statistics Emergency department care 2012–13*<sup>1</sup>, the ACT had the second highest rate of GP type presentations in Australia.

A GP type presentation is categorised as a non urgent triage category that does not require admission to hospital. Low bulk billing rates and the perceived availability of General Practitioner services in the ACT maybe a contributing factor to the increase in low acuity presentations to ACT public hospital EDs.

ACT's emergency departments are currently reviewing their processes, and working with their colleagues throughout the hospitals, to work out ways of eliminating barriers that delay quick access to required services and improve patient flow through the emergency departments.

¹http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=60129544764

#### **National Health Reform**

The National Health Reform agenda was agreed to by all States and Territories in August 2011. A set of performance targets were included in the agreement to ensure timely access to services was a priority for all health sectors across the nation. These performance indicators are measured over the calendar year.

Recent Federal Budget decisions have suggested significant changes to the National Health Reform Agreement. ACT Health and the ACT Government is working through the implications of these changes.

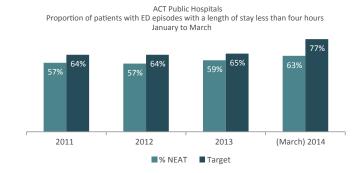
#### National Emergency Access Target (NEAT)

The National Emergency Access Target (NEAT) is a set target which aims to have a set percentage of patients leaving the ED within four hours, whether for admission to hospital, referral to another hospital for treatment, or discharge. Commencing from 2012, this target is phased over four years with annual interim targets set with the aim of achieving a 90% target by 2015. The ACT 2013 target required that 65% of all patients within the year who present to an ED leave the ED within four hours.

NEAT is measured over a calendar year. For the 2013 calendar year, 59% of patients left the ED within four hours of presentation to the ACT emergency departments. This result is a 2% improvement on the 57% reported for the same period last year but still below the desired target of 65%.

For the first three calendar months to March 2014, the ACT NEAT result was 63%, a considerable improvement when compared to 58% reported in March 2013.

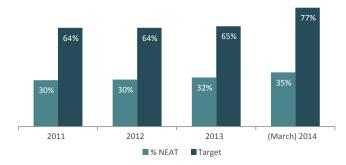
A contributing factor in achieving NEAT is determined by the types of patients who present to ACT Public Hospital EDs. When ACT Public Hospitals have an increase in urgent cases (triage 1 & 2) the achievement of NEAT becomes more challenging.



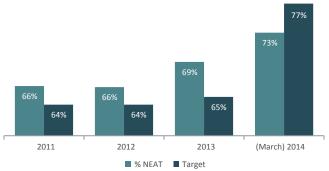
ACT Public Hospitals

Proportion of non-admitted patients with ED episodes with a length of stay less than four hours

January to March



ACT Public Hospitals
Proportion of admitted patients with ED episodes with a length of stay less than four hours
January to March



As Canberra Hospital is the main tertiary referral centre for the ACT and surrounding region, it is expected to deal with all complex and critical injured patients. The 3% increase in triage category one patients over the first nine months of 2013–14 has also placed additional pressure on our emergency department resources as these patients take longer to treat and stabilise.

Both of ACT's public hospitals are defined as major metropolitan hospitals. The latest data released by National Health Performance Authority (NHPA) for December 2013 shows that the average NEAT performance across major metropolitan hospitals in Australia in 2013 was 60%.

For the first time in this report, the NHPA has incorporated the hospital emergency department attendances. By doing this, it allows viewers to make more accurate comparisons between like hospitals.

For the first three calendar months of 2014, Canberra Hospital is reporting a NEAT result of 58%. Whilst this result is below the national peer group average of 60%, it is however well above many other similar sized hospitals in the country. Calvary Public Hospital is continuing to report strong NEAT results into 2014 with a NEAT result of 70%.

ACT Health expects further improvements in NEAT in the future with increased investment in infrastructure, including an additional 170 beds over four years and at the same time, both public hospitals are undergoing continual redesign and process improvement initiatives to improve the way patients move into, through and out of the EDs.

http://www.myhospitals.gov.au/publications/time-in-emergency-department/may-2014

## National Health Reform (continued)

#### **National Elective Surgery Targets (NEST)**

The National Health Reform Agreement was also aimed at improving elective surgery waiting times and brought new performance measures.

There are three components to the National Elective Surgery Targets (NEST). Focussing on ensuring timely access to surgery and reducing the number of patients waiting beyond clinically recommended timeframes. The final targets for all components of the NEST are to be met by December 2016; the first set of targets was to be achieved by December 2012.

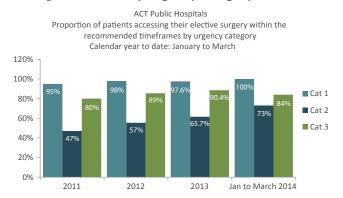
In the 2012 calendar year ACT Health was successful in meeting all nine components of the NEST. On 30 April 2014, the AIHW released their annual report on jurisdictional performance against emergency access and elective surgery targets. The report shows that the ACT was the only jurisdiction to successfully meet all targets in each of the three components of the NEST.

The ACT public hospitals achieved eight out the nine total NEST targets for 2013, with the remaining one target missing by 0.3%.

Part 1 of the NEST refers to the proportion of patients who access their elective surgery procedure within clinically recommended timeframes.

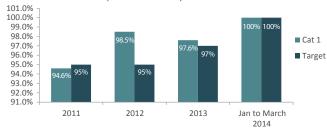
For the 2013 calendar year, ACT achieved the required targets for category one and three patients accessing their surgery on time. Category two patients did not meet the target reporting a result of 65.7% of category two patients accessing surgery on time against a target of 66%.

#### **NEST** part 1 results by urgency category



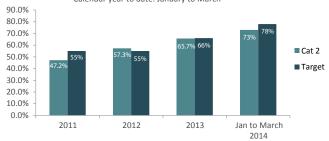
#### Urgency Category one performance

ACT Public Hospitals NEST Part 1 Proportion of category one patients accessing their elective surgery within 30 days Calendar year to date: January to March



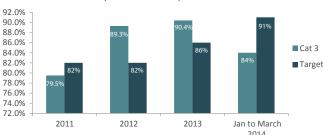
#### **Urgency Category two performance**

**ACT Public Hospitals NEST Part 1** Proportion of category two patients accessing their elective surgery within 90 days Calendar year to date: January to March



#### **Urgency Category three performance**

ACT Public Hospitals NEST Part 1 Proportion of category two patients accessing their elective surgery within 365 days Calendar year to date: January to March



Part 2 A of the NEST is based on the requirement to reduce the average overdue waiting times for each category of patients so that there are no overdue patients by the conclusion of the agreement. In the calendar year to end December 2013, ACT public hospitals successfully met the required targets for urgency category one, two and three patients.

For the first three months of 2014 calendar year, ACT public hospitals achieved category one and three targets. The ACT will continue to work on reducing the amount of long wait patients to ensure by 31 December 2014 the average overdue days are within the appropriate targets.

Part 2B of the NEST is related to the removal of the top 10 per cent of longest waiting patients on the elective surgery waiting list each year. The Australian Government issues ACT Health with the list of long-wait patients to have their surgery in that year. In the 2013 calendar year, ACT public hospitals removed all of the identified longest waiting patients from the list established for the year.

In the calendar year to March 2014 all three components of Part 2B NEST are on track.

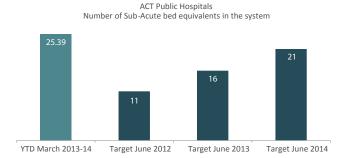
<sup>2</sup>http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=60129542732

#### National Health Reform (continued)

#### Sub-acute care reform

The sub-acute component is aimed at improving patient health outcomes, functional capacity and quality of life by increasing access to sub-acute care services including rehabilitation, palliative care, sub-acute mental health and geriatric evaluation and management, and psycho-geriatric services in both hospitals and the community.

To facilitate the process, ACT Health established a National Health Reform Steering Committee. This committee has worked on alternative models to attract additional service providers, as well as contingency plans in relation to this project. Over the first nine months of 2013–14, the planning into growth for sub-acute care services has paid off. The ACT has now delivered over 25 sub-acute bed equivalents into the system, above the June 2014 target of 21 bed equivalents. There is no financial reward or penalty associated with this target.



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#### **Mental Health Services**

Mental Health ACT continues to report strong results for the proportion of patients discharged from an inpatient service who receive follow-up care within seven days by a community facility. Timely follow-ups can reduce the number of people who need to be readmitted to an inpatient service. For the first nine months of 2013–14, both public hospitals continued to report better than the target results.

% Inpatients contacted within 7 days post-discharge					
July to March					
	2012–13 2013–14 Targets 2013–14				
Calvary	74%	87%	75%		
CH&HS	90%	91%	75%		

ACT Health is committed to its mental health clients. All relevant Mental Health ACT committees include consumer and carer member involvement. This consultation process supports the best possible integrated mental health services for our community.

Mental Health ACT has implemented a number of initiatives to reduce the level of clients secluded during an inpatient episode. These initiatives are working, with the rate of seclusion decreasing considerably over the last three years. For the first nine months of 2013–14 the current result of 2.04% is significantly better than our local target of 3% and well below the national target of 5%.

ACT public hospitals Seclusion Rates					
July to March					
2011–12	2012–13	2013–14			
1.70%	1.44%	2.04%			

Twenty-eight day unplanned readmission rate is variable depending on the complexity of either individual consumers' needs or the number of complex consumers presenting for inpatient service support at any given time. The unplanned re-admission rate for the first nine months of 2013–14 was 8.1%, slightly less than the result reported for the same period last year. It is also known that community follow-up by mental health services, carer involvement and other community supports are key factors in reducing readmissions within 28 days of an initial inpatient admission.

ACT public hospitals 28 Day Readmits					
July to March					
2011–12	2012–13	2013–14			
8.8%	8.8%	8.1%			

The readmission rate is a broad indicator of responsiveness to inpatient care and community follow up. A lower rate is preferable to promote recovery, reduce the chances of a relapse, and minimise the possible need for a further acute inpatient episode. 8.1% of mental health clients returned to hospital within 28 days of discharge from an ACT Mental Health inpatient unit. The latest national mental health report available (2010–11) indicates that national rate for hospitals in Group A Jurisdictions (NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, ACT, and Northern Territory) was 14.7% for readmissions to hospital within 28 days of discharge. The ACT is currently well below that figure.

Percentage of clients with outcome measures completed						
		July to March				
	2012–13	2012–13 2013–14 Targets 2013–14				
Calvary	90%	93%	>65%			
CH&HS	55%	59%	>65%			

Outcome measures are a suite of clinical tools used to measure a consumer's clinical status at a point in time. The tools are rating scales of clinical symptoms and assessment of needs. Outcome measures are used as a more objective assessment to monitor progress and fine tune recovery planning and response to treatment options.

For the first nine months of 2013–14, outcome measures completed at the Canberra Hospital did not meet the target of greater than 65% with a result of 59%. This result is also a 4% increase when compared with the same period last year. The Canberra Hospital result is affected by the inclusion of a large amount of community mental health episodes. The inclusion of this additional activity makes the achievement of this performance measure more challenging. Calvary hospital exceeded the target with a strong result of 93%. This result is a 3% improvement when compared with the same period for last year.

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## **Patient Safety and Quality**

ACT Health continually strives to provide a safe and high quality health care system, and is continually implementing service improvement to increase safety for all patients.

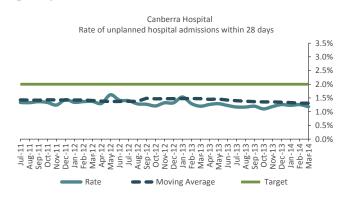
Due to the differing type and nature of services provided at each hospital campus the targets for each indicator are different. Canberra Hospital - our major teaching and referral hospital - manages more complex patients and higher levels of complications can be expected.

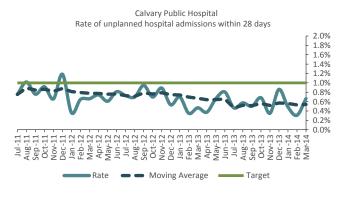
Moving averages are provided as well as month-by-month results. As there are relatively small numbers of patients who have unplanned returns to hospital or the operating theatre, or who acquire an infection during their hospital stay, there may be relatively large movements in results between months. The inclusion of the moving average smoothes out these monthly fluctuations to provide a better understanding of trends in these important indicators.

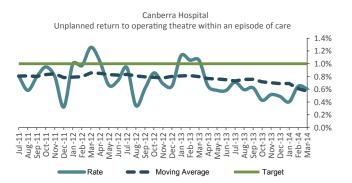
Both hospitals continue to report good results for the proportion of people who return to hospital within 28 days of discharge, with the results at the Canberra Hospital and Calvary Public Hospital remaining below target during the first nine months to March 2014.

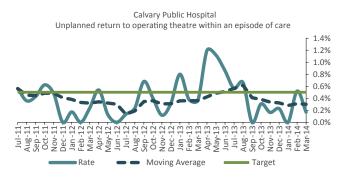
Over the last three months, both hospitals reported slight increases in the proportion of people who require an unplanned return to the operating theatre during their hospital stay in, but are still well below the targets of 1% for Canberra Hospital and 0.50% for Calvary Public Hospital.

#### Our hospitals continue to meet safety and quality standards

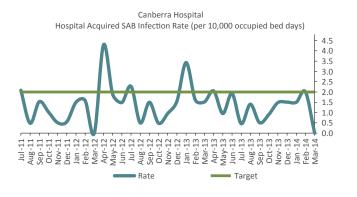








## Patient Safety and Quality (continued)







Our infection control officers continue to develop and implement programs and processes to further limit the transfer of infections within hospitals. This includes communication and education for clinicians, patients, general staff and visitors.

This indicator has changed based on National Quality and Safety standards and now only measures the number of people admitted to hospitals per 10,000 occupied bed days who acquire a Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia Infection (SAB infection) during their stay.

Both our public hospitals maintain processes to minimise hospital acquired infections during hospital stays. As noted above, the targets for each hospital is set based on the types of services they provide. As the major trauma hospital for the region, the Canberra Hospital will have higher SAB infection rates than Calvary Public Hospital. On the 13 March 2014 the National Health Performance Authority (NHPA) released its latest report titled Healthcare-associated *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infection in 2012–13.

The report highlighted that in 2012–13 major peer group hospitals with more vulnerable patients had an average result of 1.35 cases per 10,000 patient bed days. For 2012–13, Canberra Hospital reported a result of 1.72 cases per 10,000 patient bed days against the national average for major metropolitan hospitals of 1.35 cases. While this result is above the national peer group average it is still well below the national target of 2.0 per 10,000 patient bed days.

For the first nine months of 2013–14, Canberra Hospital reported a SAB result of 1.08 cases per 10,000 patient bed days, a significant reduction when compared to the 2012–13 result of 1.72 cases per 10,000 patient bed days.

Calvary Public Hospital reported very low results for SAB rates in 2012–13 compared to their peer hospitals in the major hospitals with fewer vulnerable patients category. Calvary Public Hospital reported a result of 0.33 cases per 10,000 patient bed days against the national peer group average of 0.92 cases per 10,000 patient bed days.

For the first nine months of 2013–14, Calvary Public Hospital continued to report well under the national average for the their peer group with a SAB rate result of 0.29 cases per 10,000 patient bed days.

When combining both ACT public hospitals results for the first nine months of 2013–14, the ACT reported a SAB rate result of 0.86 cases per 10,000 patient bed days. This result is below the 2012–13 national average of 0.90 cases per 10,000 patient bed days.

#### Hand Hygiene audit results

Hand Hygiene	2013–14 Target	2013 June Audit Result	2013 October Audit Result	2014 March Audit Result
Canberra Hospital	70%	67.70%	72.50%	73.0%
Calvary Public Hospital	70%	74.50%	75.60%	81.8%

Hand Hygiene Rate will also now be reported as it is now a National measure and an ACT strategic indicator. The estimated hand hygiene rate for a hospital is a measure of how often (as a percentage) hand hygiene is correctly performed.

It is calculated by dividing the number of observed hand hygiene 'moments' where proper hand hygiene was practiced in a specified audit period, by the total number of observed hand hygiene 'moments' in the same audit period.

Canberra Hospital improved its result in the latest audit undertaken in March 2014 to 73.0% from the previous audit in October 2013. Canberra Hospital is now above the national benchmark of 70%, whilst Calvary continued to improve and record results well above the national benchmark with 81.8% recorded during the same audit period.

## **Capital Region Cancer Services**

# Increasing demand, improving waiting times

Capital Region Cancer Services provided care for 1006 new radiotherapy patients in the first nine months of 2013–14. This is a 1% increase on the 996 patients beginning radiotherapy services when compared to the same period last year.

#### Percentage of radiotherapy patients who commence treatment within standard time frames

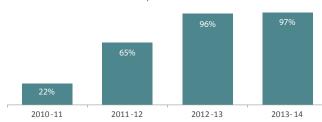
	July to March				
	2010-11	2011–12	2012-13	2013–14	
Urgent: within 48 hours	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Semi-urgent: with 4 weeks	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Non-urgent: within 6 weeks	99%	94%	98%	100%	
Total – All Radiotherapy Patients	100%	97%	99%	100%	

Despite the increase in demand for radiation therapy services, waiting times have maintained the excellent record of recent years with 100% of all urgency categories receiving access within the standard timeframes this year to date.

#### **Breast Screening**

Waiting times for Breast Screen appointments have improved as a result of the engagement of additional permanent radiographers (in 2011) as well as locum and casual radiographers. The BreastScreen ACT program no longer provides services to South East New South Wales. This has freed up radiography staff to provide services to women of the ACT. However, for women who reside in NSW and who currently work in the ACT are still able to access BreastScreen services in the ACT. This is a result of negotiations between both the NSW and ACT state Governments.

Capital Region Cancer Service
BreastScreen - proportion of women who wait 28 days or less from
their appointment date to the date of their breast screen
July to March

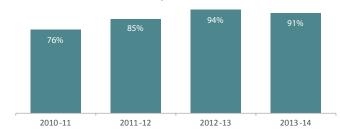


For the first nine months of 2013–14, 97% of women waited less than 28 days for their screening appointment. This is a marked improvement on the 22% reported in 2010–11. Waiting times for the proportion of women who receive an assessment within 28 days has also maintained an excellent record with a result of 91% reported for the first nine months of 2013–14, compared to 76% reported in for the same period in 2010–11.

Capital Region Cancer Service

BreastScreen-proportion of women who receive an assessment within 28 days

July to March



Despite ready availability of appointments, getting women in to the Program to attend for screening is proving difficult. To improve the numbers, BreastScreen ACT has commenced an active recruitment campaign using multiple strategies, such as contacting lapsed attendees and sending letters to General Practitioners to encourage women to have a breast screen. These new initiatives appear to be working as there has been a 21% increase in screenings performed in 2013–14. There were a total of 12,529 breast screens performed for ACT residents over the first nine months of 2013–14, compared with the 10,383 screening procedures reported for the same period last year.

## Rehabilitation, Aged and Community Care

# Strong results continue for aged care and rehabilitation services

The Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) provided in-hospital assessments within an average of 2 days for the first nine months of 2013–14. This level of service minimises delays in accessing out of hospital services for patients who no longer need hospital care. This result is demand driven.

# Aged Care and Rehabilitation activity in ACT public hospitals

	July to March (Quarter 3)		
	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14
Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) mean waiting time	1.7	2.4	2.0
Average length of stay (ALOS) for Aged Care and Rehabilitation patients at ACT public hospitals	10	12	14
Aged Care and Rehabilitation non same day bed days at ACT public hospitals	22,112	23,409	24,543
Nursing home type patients (Only Canberra hospital data reported)	43	83	112

The Aged Care and Rehabilitation Service across ACT Public Hospitals recorded a (5%) increase in overnight beds days over the first nine months of 2013–14. The majority of the 5% increase in activity was attributed to growth at the Canberra Hospital Geriatrics specialty. However, when compared to the same period in 2011–12 there has been 11% growth (2431) in the number of overnight bed days. The average length of stay for these patients has also increased by 4 days in the first nine months of 2013–14 when compared to the same period in 2011–12.

The number of nursing home type patient separations from hospital for patients at the Canberra Hospital doubled over 2012–13 and continued to increase when comparing the first nine months of 2013–14 to the same period last year. This is partly due to a lack of nursing home beds while the refurbishment of Ginninderra Gardens Nursing Home is underway. Additionally the increase in nursing home type patients at Canberra Hospital over the last couple of years and the increase in the average length of stay for these patients suggest that there is currently a shortfall of nursing home type places in the ACT.

#### **New South Wales Activity**

The ACT is committed to servicing the health needs not only of the residents of the ACT, but of the surrounding region.

As Canberra Hospital is the major teaching and referral centre for the southern NSW region, patients who are critically unwell are transferred there for a higher level of care. These patients are often very complex and require multiple services. NSW patients accounted for 17% of all public hospital admitted separations during the first nine months of 2013–14.

Around a third of all surgical procedures performed in ACT Public Hospitals are performed on patients who reside in NSW.

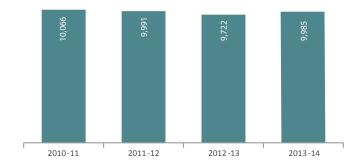
#### NSW patients accessing surgery in ACT public hospitals

	July to	o March (Quar	ter 3)
ACT public hospitals	Total Surgery	Elective Surgery	Emergency Surgery
All patients	14,220	8,732	5,488
NSW patients	4,259	2,649	1,610
% NSW patients	30%	30%	29%

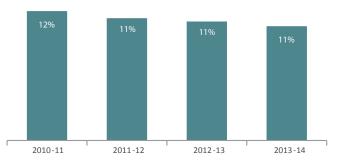
Many patients who reside in NSW also attend our public hospital emergency departments for a range of reasons. For the first nine months of 2013–14, equivalent to 9,985 NSW patients presented to ACT Public Hospital ED's for treatment, 11% of all emergency department presentations and 15% of the total admissions through the ED. Whilst these results are slightly down compared to the same period for previous years, it still places additional pressure on ACT Public Hospital resources to treat patients in a timely manner.

#### **NSW** patient activity

Presentations to the emergency department July to March

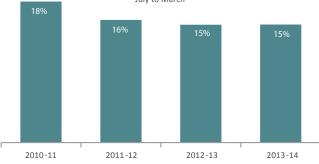


# Proportion of NSW admissions to hospital who presented to an ACT public emergency department who reside in NSW July to March



Proportion of NSW admissions to hospital via the emergency department

July to March



#### Addressing Gaps in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Status

This is a new section of the ACT Health Quarterly report for 2013–14. In this chapter ACT Health has produced a snap shot of ACT Health services provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who reside in the ACT and surrounding region.

Indigenous Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people account for less than 1% (5,184) of the ACT's total population according the 2011 census. This small cohort also makes up around 2% of ACT Public Hospital episodes of care. These include surgical and medical procedures, as well as emergency and outpatient services.

# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people accessing ACT Health Services

	July to March (Quarter 3)			
	2010–11	2011–12	2012-13	2013–14
Emergency Department presentations	2,123	2,163	2,259	2,556
Admitted inpatient episode of care	1,659	1,732	1,605	1,622
Elective Surgery operations performed	170	173	179	175

The AIHW report titled Elective Surgery Waiting Times 2012–13³ noted that the median waiting times for Indigenous Australians having elective surgery in the ACT also improved from a 74 day wait in 2011–12 to be a 38 day wait time compared to the national figure of 40 days in 2012–13. This is a positive result for the ACT.

#### Immunisation rates for the ACT indigenous population

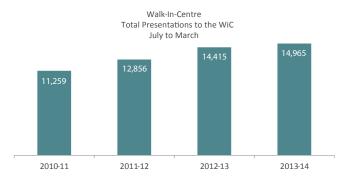
This provides an indication of the public health services to minimise the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases, as recorded by the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register, in the ACT's indigenous population. The ACT aims to maintain the immunisation coverage rates for the vulnerable groups and, in particular Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Immunisation rates for vaccines in the national schedule for the ACT Indigenous population:	2012–13 target	2012–13 Result
12 to 15 months	>90%	81.5%
24 to 27 months	>90%	91.6%
60 to 63 months	>90%	91.0%
All	>90%	88.0%

#### Walk-In-Centre

Australia's first public, nurse-led Walk-in Centre (WiC) was opened in May 2010. Since then the WiC has had 70,330 presentations to March 2014.

The Walk-in Centre is designed to help people get fast, free, one-off treatment for minor illnesses and injuries. The people of Canberra can see a specialist nurse for advice, assessment and treatment for conditions such as cuts and bruises, minor infections, strains, sprains, skin complaints, and coughs and colds.

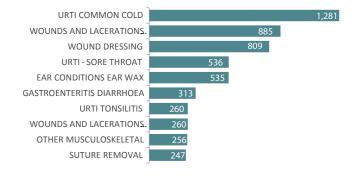


For the period of this report ACT Health operated one WiC located on the campus of the Canberra Hospital. In 2012, the ACT Government made a commitment to double the current budget for the WiC and expand the nurse-led WiCs to community locations in Belconnen and Tuggeranong.

Presentations to the WiC increased by 4% in the first nine months of 2013–14 compared with the same period last year. This increase reflects the value that the service provides to the community.

The WiC nurses treat a wide range of conditions, with no significant changes in the top 10 conditions treated since last year. The common cold remains the main reason for presentation to the WiC.

Walk-in-Centre
Top 10 conditions treated at the WiC
July to March 2013-14



If necessary, people are redirected to more appropriate services, such as their GP or the Emergency Department.

The Walk-in Centre does not provide on-going care for patients and will not treat people with chronic conditions or children less than two years of age. These patients should seek treatment and advice from their GP or the Emergency Department.

The Walk-in Centre is not designed to provide the range of services that a GP can provide, including comprehensive medical management, referral to specialist services or general health checks. The nurses who work in the Walk-in Centre have all completed additional training and the care they provide is guided by established protocols that have been endorsed by the appropriate clinical approvals processes. A visit report is sent to the patient's general practitioner with consent.

## **ACT PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

March 2014

## Surgery in ACT public hospitals

Over the past four years the amount of surgical operations performed has risen by 20%, from 11,841 reported for the first nine months of 2009–10 to 14,220 reported for the first nine months of 2013–14. The most significant increase has occurred in elective surgery which has grown by 25%.

#### Total surgery performed in ACT public hospitals

		Ju	ıly to Mar	ch	
	2009–10	2010-11	2011–12	2012-13	2013-14
Emergency Surgery	4,860	5,008	5,122	5,257	5,488
Elective Surgery	6,981	8,130	8,439	8,468	8,732
Total Surgery Performed	11,841	13,138	13,561	13,725	14,220

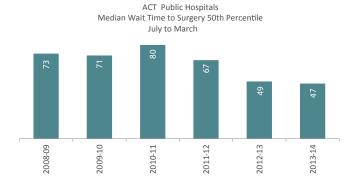
#### Increasing access to elective surgery

ACT Public Hospitals provided 11,579 elective surgery procedures in 2012–13. This result is now the highest number of elective surgery procedures performed ever in a single year for the ACT.

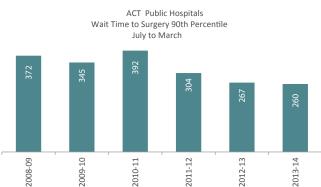
Since 2002–03 when ACT Health provided a total of 7,661 elective surgery operations, there has been a 51% increase in annual elective surgery activity over the past 10 years. 2012–13 was the third consecutive year that we have provided over 11,000 elective surgery procedures. Our public hospitals are expected to again provide well over 11,000 elective surgery procedures in 2013–14, with 8,732 procedures performed in the first nine months of 2013–14.

The latest Australian Hospitals Statistics (AIHW) report titled Elective Surgery Waiting Times 2012–13<sup>4</sup> noted that the ACT still had the highest median wait time in the country. ACT Health has worked very hard to reduce the number of overdue patients over the last few years.

ACT Health's focus on admitting longer waiting patients subsequently increases the median waiting time to surgery. However, as ACT Health has significantly reduced its long wait patients over the last few years the median wait time is now also the lowest it's been on record since 2002–03.



The ACT performs better than some other jurisdictions for patients admitted for surgery at the 90th percentile. The ACT Government investment in elective surgery has resulted in decreases for the longest waiting times at the 90th percentile, with an improvement from 392 days in 2010–11 down to 267 days in 2012–13. When comparing the first nine months of 2013–14 to the same period in 2008-09 there has been a 30% reduction in the 90th percentile.





## Surgery in ACT public hospitals (continued)

# Reducing the number of patients waiting too long for elective surgery

This increase in access to elective surgery had a very significant impact on the numbers of patients waiting for elective surgery and the numbers of patients waiting too long for care. At the end of March 2014, there were 3,980 patients on the elective surgery waiting list. When compared with March 2010 there has been a 29% decrease.

ACT Public Hospitals

Number of patients currently waiting on the elective surgery waiting list

July to March

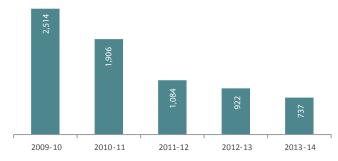


ACT Public Hospitals have also significantly reduced the amount of people waiting longer than the recommended timeframe for their elective surgery procedure (long waits) with a result of 737 long wait patients at the end of the first nine months of 2013–14. This has resulted in a 20% reduction in the number of long waits in just 12 months and since March 2010 there has been a remarkable 71% reduction.

ACT Public Hospitals

Total number of patients waiting longer than clinically recommended time frames

July to March

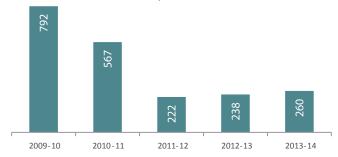


ACT Health continues to reduce the number of patients waiting greater than one year for surgery, with a result of 260 at the end of March 2013. There has been significant work undertaken over the last few years to reduce the amount of patients waiting less than a year for their surgery and though the latest result is a slight increase when compared to the same period last year, when compared the March 2010 result of 792, there has been 67% reduction.

ACT Public Hospitals

Total number of patients waiting longer than 365 days for surgery

July to March



This table shows the significant work undertaken by ACT Health to reduce the amount of long wait patients in a number of surgical specialties. While there is still more to be done there has been significant improvement over the past few years and with plans in place to ensure all these patients access their surgery as quickly as possible.

#### Reducing overdue patients by surgical specialty

		Ma	ırch	
Surgical Specialties	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cardiothoracic surgery	2	0	0	1
Ear, Nose & Throat surgery	447	101	168	176
General Surgery	85	69	134	86
Gynaecology surgery	59	16	13	23
Neurosurgery	5	23	9	15
Ophthalmology surgery	19	19	15	8
Orthopaedic surgery	792	484	416	314
Plastic surgery	89	37	14	36
Urology surgery	189	176	111	28
Vascular surgery	90	32	17	16
Other surgery (includes Paediatric surgery, Oral surgery & Thoracic surgery)	129	127	25	34

March 2014

## **Selected Statistics**

	July	to March	% VAI
	2012–13	2013–14	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Inpatient Activity			
Day only patient days	37,256	38,972	5%
Overnight patient days	208,385	209,733	19
Total episodes of care (separations)	70,604	72,328	29
Nursing Home Type Patient (NHTP) Bed-Days (on separation – Canberra Hospital only)	2,832	4,878	72%
Bed Occupancy Rate (total overnight hospital beds)	92%	90%	-29
Total number of births in ACT public hospitals	3,620	3,855	69
Proportion of births by caesarean in ACT public hospitals	28%	27%	-19
Emergency Department Activity			
Timeliness by triage category			
Category 1 Seen (immediate – 2 mins)	100%	100%	09
Category 2 Seen (within 10 mins)	71%	83%	129
Category 3 Seen (within 30 mins)	42%	50%	89
Category 4 Seen (within 60 mins)	46%	57%	119
Category 5 Seen (within 120 mins)	78%	86%	89
Total Emergency Department Presentations	88,932	94,255	69
Did Not Waits	8%	5%	-39
Admissions via Emergency department	23,208	25,499	109
Admissions to Emergency Department observational wards	9,933	9,946	09
Admissions from the Emergency Department to ICU, Surgery, and general wards	13,275	15,553	179
Walk-in-Centre			
Total presentations	14,415	14,961	49
Patients treated	10,152	10,758	69
WIC – % presentations who did not wait	2%	1.7%	09
% Treated within the WIC	70%	72%	2

ACT Health			
Selected ACT Public hospitals and Co	mmunity Act	tivity Indica	tors
	July	to March	% VAR
	2012–13	2013–14	
Elective Surgery			
Additions to the public hospital elective surgery waiting list	10,116	10,135	0%
Numbers of people on the elective surgery waiting list	4,120	3,980	-3%
Removals from the list for surgery	8,468	8,732	3%
Removals from the list for other reasons	1,473	1,546	5%
Patients on the list recorded as "not ready for care"	898	919	2%
Hospital Initiated Postponements	7%	6%	-1%
Elective surgery median waiting time	to care by ur	gency categ	ory
Category one patients (admission required within 30 days)	13	15	2 days
Category two patients (admission desirable within 90 days)	70	60	-10 days
Category three patients (admission desirable within 365 days)	162	165	3 days
Medical Services			
Elective endoscopies			
Number of elective endoscopies performed	3,254	3,531	9%
Number of patients waiting for an endoscopy procedure	1,959	2,268	16%
Medical Endoscopy median waiting urgency category	time to care	by patient	
Category one patients (admission required within 30 days)	21	22	1 days
Category two patients (admission desirable within 90 days)	136	112	–24 days
Category three patients (admission desirable within 365 days)	288	292	4 days

ACT Health			
Selected ACT Public hospitals and Com	<del></del>	<del></del>	
	· · · · · · · ·	to March	% VAR
	2012–13	2013–14	
Elective Cardiology			
Number of elective cardiology procedures performed	967	855	-12%
Median waiting time to an interventional cardiology procedure in days	21	20	-1 day
Breast screens			
Total breast screens performed for ACT residents	10,383	12,529	21%
Number of breast screens for women aged 50-69	8,560	9,807	15%
Participation rate of breast screens for ACT women aged 50-69	55%	56%	1%
Cervical Cytology			
Additions to the Cervical Cytology Register	27,269	27,493	1%
Mental Health			
Community Services by Group			
ACT wide mental health program community service contacts	68,011	75,884	12%
Children and youth mental health program community service contacts	41,682	45,547	9%
Adult mental health program community service contacts	76,837	84,178	10%
Proportion of mental health committees with consumer and care representation	100%	100%	0%
Dental Services			
Mean Waiting (time in months) for persons on the Centralised Waiting and Recall List	11	5	-6 months
Proportion of urgent patients seen with standard waiting times	100%	100%	0%

March 2014

## Glossary

#### **Emergency department** Patients presenting to an emergency department are seen on the basis of clinical urgency as determined by trained medical professionals. Patients are classified into one of five categories, and their access to treatment is based on this clinical categorisation: 1. Resuscitation—treatment to commence immediately 2. Emergency—treatment to commence within 10 minutes 3. Urgent—within 30 minutes 4. Semi-Urgent—within 60 minutes 5. Non-urgent—within 120 minutes The proportion of patients seen at emergency departments within standard waiting times (as set by the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine) 1. Resuscitation—100% seen on time 2. Emergency—80% seen within 10 mins 3. Urgent—75% seen within 30 mins 4. Semi-urgent-70% seen within 60 mins 5. Non-urgent—70% seen within 120 mins The proportion of patients admitted to hospital via the emergency department who wait less than eight hours from the time that treatment commences to the time that the patient is transferred to a hospital ward.

#### **Elective surgery**

Patients listed for elective surgery at ACT public hospitals are assigned one of three priority categories based on their surgeon's opinion about the urgency of the need for surgery in accordance with the definitions in the National Health Data Dictionary:

1. Urgent—admission within 30 days is desirable for a condition that has the potential to deteriorate quickly to the point that it may become an emergency

- 2. Semi-urgent—admission within 90 days is desirable for a condition causing some pain, dysfunction or disability but which is not likely to deteriorate guickly or become an emergency
- 3. Non-urgent—admission at some time in the future acceptable for a condition causing minimal or no pain, dysfunction or disability, which is not likely to deteriorate quickly and which does not have the potential to become an emergency (Health Directorate establishes a 365 day maximum desirable waiting time for category three patients.

Urgency category

The waiting time at the fiftieth (50th) percentile for all patients admitted for elective surgery at an ACT public hospital in a given period (and for a given patient urgency category).

Waiting	The proportion of patients admitted for surgery within a given period who are admitted within standard waiting times for their condition.
Removals for surgery	The number of people, in a given period, who are removed from the ACT public hospitals elective surgery waiting list for surgery.
Patients waiting longer than one year for surgery	The number of patients still on the elective surgery waiting list (and who are listed as "ready for surgery") who have been waiting longer than 365 days (at a given census date).
Long wait patients accessing elective surgery	The number of patients on the ACT public hospitals' waiting lists who have had surgery within a given period whose waiting time was longer than the standard waiting time for their condition when admitted for surgery.
Hospital initiated postponements	The proportion of elective surgery patients booked for surgery in a given period who have their surgery postponed by the hospital (for reasons such as substitution for a more urgent patient, no beds available, etc.).
Endosco	ру
Urgency	See entry for elective surgery.
Median waiting time	See entry for elective surgery.

Dental s	services
Waiting times (urgent)	The proportion of dental health program clients assessed as in need of emergency services who receive care within 24 hours of a request.
Waiting times (general)	The average waiting time (in months) that clients of the adult centralised waiting list wait for care from the time of the request of an appointment to the date of the appointment with the dental health program.
Radioth	erapy
Waiting times (urgent)	The proportion of new radiotherapy patients who are assessed as in need of urgent access to treatment who are provided with treatment within 48 hours of a request.
Waiting times (general)	The proportion of all new radiotherapy patients who are provided with treatment within 28 days of a request.
Breast s	creening
Wait time to assessment	The proportion of women requiring assessment who wait 28 days or less from their breast screen appointment to their assessment appointment.
Wait time to appointment	The proportion of women who wait 28 days or less from their appointment date to the date of their breast screen.
Number of screens	Number of ACT women who are provided with breast screens within a given period.
Participation rate	The proportion of women in the ACT in the targeted age group for breast screening (50 to 69 years) who have had a breast screen within the last two years at any given time.

March 2014

## Glossary (continued)

#### Bed usage

Occupancy rate

The proportion of available overnight adult medical and surgical beds that are used on average over a given period.

#### Patient safety

Unplanned return to Hospital within 28 days

The proportion of patients who are readmitted within 28 days to the same hospital in which they were previously a patient, where the readmission was:

- unexpected for further treatment of the same condition for which the patient was previously hospitalised
- unexpected admission for treatment of a condition related to one for which the patient was previously hospitalised
- unexpected admission for a complication of the condition for which the patient was previously hospitalised.

The proportion of patients who are required to return to the operating room for a further procedure related to complication(s) of a previous operation/procedure within a single admission.

The incidence of blood stream infections such as staphylococcus aureus (golden staph) acquired within ACT public hospitals, reported as the number of infections per 10,000 non-same day occupied bed days.

#### Mental health

The proportion of patients who are separated from a psychiatric inpatient unit who were subject to seclusion during their inpatient episode.

# Clients seen within seven days post discharge from hospital

The proportion of clients seen at or contacted by an ACT Health community facility during the seven days post-discharge from the inpatient service.

Consumer and carer representation

The proportion of Mental Health ACT committees upon which consumers and carers are represented.

#### **Immunisation**

Childhood immunisations

The proportion of children at one year of age fully immunised in accordance with the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register Schedule.

#### Inpatient separations (Admitted patients)

The number of separations (completed episodes of care) expressed in cost weighted terms. "Cost weighting" allocates a weight for each hospital episode based on the average level of resources used for each type of episode (with the average episode receiving a weight of "1"). As examples, a standard dialysis episode has a weight of 0.17 of the average and a knee replacement has a weight of about "5" (or five times the average). ACT Health used national public hospital cost weights (Round 13) for counting of hospital episodes in 2011-12.

The proportion of patients separated from ACT public hospitals whose residential address is in NSW.

In accordance with national definitions, the number of days that a patient spends in hospital. All day only (or same-day) patients are counted as spending one full day in hospital (regardless of the time actually spent in hospital). For non same-day patients, the number of days is calculated by subtracting the separation date from the admission date (in full days).

The number of patient days on separation for all patients who have been classified as nursing home type patients.

The proportion of patients who have surgery as a result of an emergency against the total number of surgical procedures.

The proportion of all elective surgery cases who are admitted to hospital on the same day that they have their surgery.

The number of births reported at our public hospitals in a given period.

The number of births at public hospitals that are reported as being undertaken as caesarean sections.

#### Mental health

The number of community based services provided to each of the three client groups:

- Adults
- Children and adolescents
- · Older people.