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Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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Dear Chair

The Introduction of a Short Stay Surgery Basket of Procedures for NHS Wales

This letter formally introduces a revised short stay surgery basket of procedures for Wales.

In 2006, the Wales Audit Office published the report '*Making better use of NHS day surgery in Wales*'. One of the themes of the report was that the current approach for monitoring day surgery performance in Wales did not accurately reflect modern approaches to service delivery. Subsequently, I requested that a review of the daycase basket be carried out and for a short stay surgery programme to be developed. This programme of work is being undertaken in two phases:

Phase 1 – The replacement of the Audit Commission Basket of Procedures 2000 with a revised short stay surgery basket.

Phase 2 – The introduction of a short stay surgery programme for Wales, incorporating procedures which are most clinically appropriate to be undertaken within an outpatient setting.

Phase 1, which was led by Professor Mike Harmer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, assisted by a number of clinicians, has now been completed. The new basket is based closely on the British Association of Day Surgery (BADs) Directory of Procedures [2007 Edition] for a number of reasons:

- A wider range of procedures are listed when compared with existing audit baskets;
- The directory has been developed by the clinicians;
- The basket approach for audit can be easily drawn from the directory;
- It features a set of aspirational performance targets that will encourage excellence and improvement;
- The targets quoted are based on real data and on real performance.

The revised short stay surgery basket of procedures is to be mandated, effective from Friday, 19 December 2008, and shall form the basis of short stay surgery performance benchmarking in NHS Wales. A full list of the procedures included within the short stay surgery basket is outlined in **Appendix 1**.

An online tool supporting the introduction of the new basket is currently in development. This will enable the service to monitor performance and against the new basket and, where appropriate, will be able to be used to support service improvement.

Phase 2 of the work is scheduled to be completed by December 2009.

Actions Required

Each organisation is required to adhere to the new short stay surgery basket and to monitor performance against the new basket and, where appropriate, ensure improvements in service delivery are made to ensure compliance with the revised targets for short stay surgery, as specified in the Annual Operating Framework 2009/2010.

Monitoring Arrangements

Performance against a sub-set of the revised basket will be monitored via the Productivity & Efficiency targets, as specified within the Annual Operating Framework 2009/2010, effective 1 April 2009.

Any queries relating to the review and its recommendations should be directed to:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. James', written in a cursive style.

National Programme for Short Stay Surgery - Same Day Surgery Basket of Procedures 2009/2010

Procedure	Current All Wales average Performance	Current best performance in Wales	BADS Aspirational Target	National 09/10 Target
Primary repair of inguinal hernia	56%	90%	95%	85%
Arthroscopy of knee including menisectomy, meniscal or other repair	73%	95%	95%	89%
Laparoscopic cholecystectomy	9%	41%	50%	30%
Bunion operations with or without internal fixation and soft tissue correction	20%	52%	95%	58%
Therapeutic (including endoscopic) operations on uterus (including endometrial ablation)	69%	93%	95%	88%
Excision/biopsy of breast tissue +/- localisation	53%	80%	95%	85%
Operations to manage female incontinence	18%	42%	80%	49%
Polypectomy of internal nose	14%	44%	70%	42%
Laparoscopy and therapeutic procedures including laser, diathermy and destruction e.g. endometriosis, adhesiolysis, tubal surgery	52%	90%	95%	84%
Myringotomy +/- insertion of tube, suction clearance	82%	96%	99%	95%
Dupuytren's fasciectomy	69%	89%	95%	88%
Repair of umbilical hernia	59%	83%	85%	79%
Tympanoplasty	7%	35%	50%	29%
Operations on foreskin - circumcision, division of adhesions	78%	93%	90%	87%
Diagnostic laparoscopy	67%	86%	85%	80%
Excision / destruction of lesion of anus	66%	100%	90%	84%
Vitrectomy	37%	100%	60%	54%
Endoscopic resection of prostate (TUR)	2%	5%	15%	12%
Carpal tunnel release	96%	99%	99%	99%
Operation/exploration of sheath of tendon (e.g. trigger finger)	87%	95%	95%	95%
Excision of ganglion	89%	100%	95%	95%
Excision/biopsy of lesion of pinna	91%	99%	95%	95%
Correction of squint	84%	100%	90%	90%
Autograft anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction	20%	39%	25%	25%
Transluminal procedures on femoral artery	19%	56%	20%	20%
Septoplasty of nose	9%	55%	60%	14%
Tonsillectomy	1%	3%	80%	15%
Oophorectomy and salpingectomy (inc. bilateral)	7%	17%	95%	14%
Anterior +/- posterior colporrhaphy (including primary repair of enterocele)	1%	6%	30%	6%
Extraction of cataract +/- implant	98%	100%	95%	98%
Removal of internal fixation from bone/joint, excluding k-wires	66%	81%	30%	66%
Endoscopic resection/destruction of lesion of bladder	27%	40%	20%	27%
Excision of lesion of penis	96%	100%	50%	96%

Data Source: PEDW 2007/08 All Wales Trusts