

IJB59. Hospital Readmission of Falkirk Residents within 28 Days of Discharge

The Integration Joint Board considered a report by the NHS FV Medical Director on Hospital Readmission of Falkirk Residents within 28 days of Discharge.

Public Health Scotland (PHS) released information to Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCP) on a quarterly basis, known as the Core Suite of Integration Indicators. The report reviewed the outcomes under Data Indicator 14 pertaining to the rate of readmissions for Falkirk residents in comparison with all HSCPs and the Scotland position.

The Board had noted, national figures against this indicator showed Falkirk residents who had had a hospital stay in any hospital across Scotland had a readmission rate of 163 out of 1000 admissions. This was the highest rate in Scotland and above the national position of 120 per 1000 discharges. Analysis over time, showed an increase in this position since 2019, which was when changes in how patients were coded in clinical assessment areas from outpatients to inpatients began. These areas had an approximate rate of 5% returning to clinical areas for further testing or treatment on a planned care model, known as Ward Attenders.

Ward Attenders were required to be recorded as Outpatients, however previous analysis showed a significant proportion were entered into the inpatient module. This had impacted data quality on the national inpatient dataset used to produce the Core Indicator Suite by PHS. All data quality issues highlighted in the report were on the agenda of the Information Quality and eHealth Learning Group, a multi-disciplinary group, consisting of Health and Social Care Partners, clinicians, clinical service managers, Health Records, eHealth and Information Services representatives, working with services to address data quality issues across the organisation.

Decision

The Integration Joint Board noted:-

- (1) the ongoing work of the Information Quality and eHealth Learning Group to improve the data quality and align definitions and eliminate data-based variation, and**
- (2) that a report to monitor readmissions performance would be presented to the IJB in 6 months.**