Mean lengths of stay – 2003/04 to 2005/06

Question

What was the mean length of stay both within the critical care unit and in acute hospital for admissions to adult, general critical care units participating in the Case Mix Programme during the financial years (April-March) 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06?

Available data for report

222,025 admissions to 171 adult, general critical care units between 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2006.

Selection of Cases

All admissions to adult, general critical care units (i.e. excluding specialist units and standalone high dependency units) participating in the Case Mix Programme.

Definitions for variables included

Critical care unit length of stay was the duration in days from the date and time of admission to the critical care unit to the date and time of discharge from the critical care unit or the date and time of death.

Total acute hospital length of stay was the duration in days from the date of original admission to an acute hospital to the date of ultimate discharge from an acute hospital or death.
Results

Table 1: Mean critical care unit and acute hospital length of stay for admissions to adult, general critical care units participating in the Case Mix Programme, April 2003 to March 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total admissions</th>
<th>Number of units</th>
<th>Mean critical care unit LOS (days)</th>
<th>Mean acute hospital LOS* (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>76,668</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>73,541</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td>71,816</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LOS: length of stay
*Excluding readmissions of the same patient within the acute hospital stay

Acknowledgement

Please acknowledge the source of these data in all future presentations (oral and/or written), as follows:

“These data derive from the Case Mix Programme Database. The Case Mix Programme is the national, comparative audit of patient outcomes from adult critical care coordinated by the Intensive Care National Audit & Research Centre (ICNARC). These analyses are based on data for 222,025 admissions to 171 adult, general critical care units based in NHS hospitals geographically spread across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. For more information on the representativeness and quality of these data, please contact ICNARC.”