

James Paget University Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

Report to: Board of Directors
Date: 26th October 2007
Title: Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check
Report of: Chief Executive
Report for: Attention

SUMMARY:

The Healthcare Commission's Annual Health Check was published on Thursday 18th October. A summary of our performance was sent to all staff. This is attached for the Board's information.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors is asked note the Annual Health Check.

Wednesday 17th October 2007

Results of the 2006/07 Annual Health Check

1. Purpose of this Staff Briefing

1.1 The purpose of this brief is to give staff a simple guide to how the Trust performed in the Healthcare Commission's annual health check, published on Thursday 18th October.

1.2 The Healthcare Commission's annual health check involves all 394 NHS Trusts in England. Each receives a rating on a four-point scale of 'Excellent', 'Good', 'Fair' or 'Weak' in two broad areas: the quality of their services measured against the Government's core standards and how well they manage their resources.

The score for the quality of services rating is based on how well Trusts meet 24 core standards in areas like safety, clinical effectiveness and patient focus. The score for use of resources is based on how well a Trust manages its finances and achieves value for money.

The information is available on the website: <http://2007ratings.healthcarecommission.org.uk>

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Attached is a one page summary showing our performance this year compared against last year which is really helpful.

2.2 Overall Result for 2006/07

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| • Use of Resources | Excellent | (Good in 05/06) |
| • Quality of Services | Fair | (Fair in 05/06) |

3. Comparison with Other Trusts

3.1 See table at the end of this report.

4. Our Areas of Strong Performance

4.1 Use of Resources

To improve our rating from Good to Excellent is fantastic news, and puts us in the top 28% of Trusts in England. It shows that we have robust financial management systems and that financial targets have been met for at least two years. This is a credit to all staff who have worked so hard to manage ward, clinic and department budgets closely.

4.2 Quality of Services

Having a strong performance on resources with robust systems for financial management gives us a secure base for making significant investment in quality improvements which we will continue to deliver. The Healthcare Commission's assessment was made several months ago and a great deal has changed since then, as section 5 below shows. We performed well against the existing national targets, including:

- Patients thrombolysed within 60 minutes of a heart attack

- 26 weeks for inpatients
- 13 weeks for outpatients
- A&E 4 hour wait
- all three cancer targets (2 week wait, 31 days and 62 days)
- cancelled operations rebooked inside 28 days
- effective admissions management

Meeting all these targets and standards is a reflection of the hard work of all Trust staff.

5. Quality of Services – explanation of the ‘fair’ rating

5.1 Our rating for quality of services Fair was influenced by four specific areas.

- Infant health and inequalities – smoking during pregnancy
- Indicator on stroke care
- Improvement review of services for children in hospital
- Medicines management

These are explained in more detail below.

5.2 Health and inequalities – smoking during pregnancy

The problem with this target was low data completeness. The target relates to the requirement to reduce health inequalities by 2010 as measured by infant mortality. One of the measures used for this target is smoking during pregnancy, a key determinant of low birth weight. Part of this measures the Trust’s ability to record effectively the rates of women known to be smokers at the time of delivery. Trusts had to achieve 85% of data completed for this standard, with a clear ‘yes’ or ‘no’ recorded as to whether women were or were not smoking. We achieved 83%, missing this standard by just 2%. We have already taken steps to address our data recording so that this field is now fully completed for all pregnant women in our care.

5.3 Indicator on Stroke Care

This target looks at the wider reduction in mortality rates from stroke by 2010. It is measured using the results of the Sentinel Stroke Audit. This audit was completed at JPUH in October and November 2006 when our stroke unit was open but not fully operational. Since the audit, our stroke services have changed dramatically. We’ve done a great deal of work on the pathways stroke patients follow in hospital after they’ve been admitted, most notably the recent introduction of rapid access to CT.

5.4 Improvement review of services for children in hospital

Earlier in the year, the HCC published a report that graded our inpatient services for children as Excellent. This showed there are regular meetings between A&E, ITU and paediatrics to ensure that standards and pathways are streamlined and child friendly. However, our overall score in this annual healthcheck was affected by our outpatient service and emergency care facilities. In response to this, we have already totally refurbished our children’s area in our A&E department and we have a designated ‘see and treat’ area specifically for children. There is an improved waiting area for children and their parents and all staff have undergone training in areas that are specific to children. We continue to work on capital plans to further upgrade our facilities for children.

5.5 Medicines Management

This is quite a complex area of the annual healthcheck and one which will be reviewed in detail by the Pharmacy team. We are introducing new technology in pharmacy to enable staff to spend more time on the wards with staff and patients, thereby enhancing service quality.

If you have any further queries about the Annual Health Check, check the website or email Tracy Moyse, PA, with your query.

16th October 2007

Distribution

Board of Directors, Governors, Divisional Directors, Divisional Managers, Matrons, Heads of Department, Monitor, PPIF

Performance in some other East of England Trusts

Trust Name	2006/7	Resources	2005/6	Resources
	Quality		Quality	
Bedford	Fair	Fair	Fair	Weak
Beds&Luton MHPT	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair
Addenbrookes	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Excellent
Yar&Wave PCT	Fair	Weak		
Hinchingbrooke	Fair	Weak	Fair	Weak
Ipswich	Fair	Weak	Fair	Weak
James Paget	Fair	Excellent	Fair	Good
Luton and Dun	Fair	Good	Good	Good
N&N Trust	Good	Excellent	Good	Good
Norfolk PCT	Fair	Weak		
Papworth	Excellent	Excellent	Fair	Good
Peter&Stam FT	Fair	Excellent	Good	Good
Suffolk PCT	Fair	Weak		
QE Kings Lynn	Excellent	Weak	Good	Weak
W Suffolk Trust	Excellent	Weak	Fair	Weak