Deaths following time in hospital
NHS trusts, England

Quarterly official statistics
January 2015 – December 2015

This publication compares the actual number of deaths following time in hospital with the expected number of deaths, using the Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI).

The expected number of deaths is estimated using the characteristics of the patients treated; age, sex, method of admission, current and underlying medical condition(s). It covers patients admitted to hospitals in England who died either while in hospital or within 30 days of being discharged.

Between January 2015 and December 2015, there were approximately 8.8 million discharges, from which 287,000 deaths were recorded either while in hospital or within 30 days of discharge for the 136 hospital trusts covered. This includes deaths from other causes as well as deaths related to the reason for the hospital admission.

The 15 higher than expected trusts were:
- Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT
- Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS FT
- Dorset County Hospital NHS FT
- East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust
- Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- Medway NHS FT
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT
- South Tyneside NHS FT
- Southend University Hospital NHS FT
- Tameside Hospital NHS FT
- United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- Weston Area Health NHS Trust
- Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- Wye Valley NHS Trust

The 14 lower than expected trusts were:
- Barts Health NHS Trust
- Cambridge University Hospitals NHS FT
- Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS FT
- Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS FT
- Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
- King’s College Hospital NHS FT
- Royal Free London NHS FT
- Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS FT
- Salford Royal NHS FT
- The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT
- The Whittington Hospital NHS Trust
- Torbay and South Devon NHS FT
- University College London Hospitals NHS FT
- West Suffolk NHS FT

SHMI was developed in response to the public inquiry into the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust.

It is used along with other information to inform the decision making of trusts, regulators and commissioning organisations.

SHMI is not a measure of quality of care. A higher/lower than expected number of deaths should not immediately be interpreted as indicating poor/good performance and instead should be viewed as a ‘smoke alarm’ which requires further investigation.

SHMI cannot be used to directly compare mortality outcomes between trusts and it is inappropriate to rank trusts according to their SHMI.

Trusted in bold were also in the same category in the same period in the previous year. ‘FT’ means ‘Foundation Trust’. The 15 "higher than expected" trusts were:
- Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT
- Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS FT
- Dorset County Hospital NHS FT
- East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust
- Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- Medway NHS FT
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT
- South Tyneside NHS FT
- Southend University Hospital NHS FT
- Tameside Hospital NHS FT
- United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- Weston Area Health NHS Trust
- Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- Wye Valley NHS Trust

The 14 "lower than expected" trusts were:
- Barts Health NHS Trust
- Cambridge University Hospitals NHS FT
- Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS FT
- Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS FT
- Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
- King’s College Hospital NHS FT
- Royal Free London NHS FT
- Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS FT
- Salford Royal NHS FT
- The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT
- The Whittington Hospital NHS Trust
- Torbay and South Devon NHS FT
- University College London Hospitals NHS FT
- West Suffolk NHS FT

Results for this trust are based on incomplete data and should be interpreted with caution.