Indicator 13.3 - Patients waiting longer than three months for revascularisation

Rationale
Circulatory disease accounts for nearly 40% of all deaths among men and women in England every year and coronary heart disease (CHD) is one of the biggest killers. Many people are living with CHD: more than 1.4 million suffer with angina and 300,000 have heart attacks every year. The effects of heart disease are not evenly distributed across different strata of society.

The National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease states that there is good evidence that many people with atheromatous plaques and narrowed coronary arteries can have their symptoms relieved and/or their risks of dying reduced by restoring blood flow through block coronary arteries – revascularisation. In 1996 waiting times for procedures were more than 2 years in some places and a series of targets within Priorities and Planning Frameworks were introduced to reduce this wait.

The ultimate government target was to deliver a maximum wait of three months for revascularisation by March 2005.

Existing indicator sets
This indicator is a PCT performance indicator.

Definition
The number of patients, summed across the months April to March, who have been waiting more than 3 months from decision to treat for either coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) or percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) divided by the total number of patients who have received CABG or PTCA for the financial year using the cumulative activity figures reported in the March (year end) Monthly Monitoring Return. The figure is expressed as a percentage.

Source of indicator
Care Quality Commission.

Numerator definition
The total number of patients who have been waiting more than three months for either CABG or PTCA. The value is made up of the number of patients waiting three months or over on the monthly returns summed across the months April to March.
**Source of numerator**

Monthly monitoring return. Data is published as part of the Care Quality Commission annual health check and can be found at ‘existing national targets’.

**Denominator definition**

The total number of patients that have received a CABG or PTCA. The value is the sum of the number of patients in the CABG and PTCA activity columns using the cumulative activity figures reported in the March (year end) Monthly Monitoring Return.

**Source of denominator**

Monthly monitoring return. Data is published as part of the Care Quality Commission annual health check and can be found at ‘existing national targets’.

**Geographic coverage**

The data for this indicator is available at PCT and NHS trust level.

**Other dimensions of inequality**

No other dimensions of inequality are recorded for this indicator.

**Timeliness**

Trusts must submit data within the 15th working day after the end of the month. This data is updated monthly and the indicator published annually by the Care Quality Commission.

**Accuracy and completeness**

Monthly returns are required from every PCT and NHS Trust to monitor progress against waiting times and activity targets.

**Disclosure**

There are no issues regarding disclosure.
Further information

For further information on the annual health check see Care Quality Commission.

References


Health and Social Care Information Centre

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