

2 April 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Early Discharge Schemes.

The Trust can provide the following information:

### Therapy at Home Team

Does your hospital use an early discharge scheme, use virtual wards, or a recovery at home scheme (i.e. a scheme for individuals to be discharged early from hospital who still have a clinical need but lower acuity than is necessary to take up a hospital bed)? **Yes**

- a) If yes does your hospital use an external provider or providers for this? If so which provider(s)? **Currently provided by LBH (but joint funded by CCG and LBH) soon to be provided by the Homerton (RICS)**
  
- b) Which wards use the scheme? **All wards bar surgical which is covered by the Surgical Rehab Team (provided by Homerton hospital) who provide short term intervention for surgical interventions within acute and followed through to the community. We also accept from other hospitals if resident in Hackney or the City of London**
  
- c) How many patients use the scheme each year (or quarter/month if available)? **Annual figure (per year) for T@H it is approx. 500 who are coming from hospitals and we facilitate discharge (the rest are community referrals preventing admission) and 50 who go to Median Road Intermediate Care Beds**
  - i) Broken down by ward and provider? **For T@H and Median Road using last year's figures it's approx. 175 from the Homerton Elderly Care Unit, 120 from other Homerton wards (we don't have info on each ward), 50 from the Stroke Unit, 60 from hyperacute units (other hospitals) and 145 from other hospitals**
  
- d) What are the clinical criteria used to determine who gets an early discharge? **I'd imagine medically stable, would benefit from rehabilitation and / or reablement to facilitate early discharge home**

## Surgical Rehabilitation Scheme

Does your hospital use an early discharge scheme, use virtual wards, or a recovery at home scheme (i.e. a scheme for individuals to be discharged early from hospital who still have a clinical need but lower acuity than is necessary to take up a hospital bed)? **Yes**

- a) If yes does your hospital use an external provider or providers for this? If so which provider(s)? **Surgical Rehab Team is an internal provider.**
- b) Which wards use the scheme? **Surgical Rehab Team sees patients from the Homerton Surgical Wards and facilitates their discharge home as early as possible.**
- c) How many patients use the scheme each year (or quarter/month if available)? **SRT has around 50-60 new referrals per month.**
  - i) Broken down by ward and provider? **All SRT patients are from the surgical wards at HUH (Thomas Audley and Priestley)**
- d) What are the clinical criteria used to determine who gets an early discharge? **Medically stable, able to be managed at home after doing a home assessment – there is no set minimal functional level as patients can be discharged as a hoist transfer for rehab at home if that can be accommodated.**

## Community Childrens Nursing Team

Does your hospital use an early discharge scheme, use virtual wards, or a recovery at home scheme (i.e. a scheme for individuals to be discharged early from hospital who still have a clinical need but lower acuity than is necessary to take up a hospital bed)? **Within Paediatric Services we do discharge children early who are well enough to go home but still need continue their treatment until certain blood results come back. The service is provided by the Community Children's Nursing team who will only see children 0 to 16 years that have nursing needs that being completion of drug treatment wound management, nutritional support via feeding tubes.**

- a) If yes does your hospital use an external provider or providers for this? If so which provider(s)? **The service is provided by Homerton University Hospital Community Children' Nursing Team**
- b) Which wards use the scheme? **Paediatric ward, Children's Outpatients and occasionally the children's Emergency department. We will also get some referrals**

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from other acute units such as the Royal London, the Whittington and other hospitals such as Great Ormond Street and UCLH..

- c) How many patients use the scheme each year (or quarter/month if available)? **On average we get approx. 10 to 15 children referred every month. But this can be quite seasonal. More often the referrals are more in the winter and spring and less in the summer.**
  - i) Broken down by ward and provider? **All SRT patients are from the surgical wards at HUH (Thomas Audley and Priestley)**
  
- d) What are the clinical criteria used to determine who gets an early discharge? **Those children that have stabilised, observations that are within normal limits for their age. Are eating and drinking well and are classed safe to be discharged home in the care of the Community children's Nursing team.**

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at [foi@homerton.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@homerton.nhs.uk) , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk) to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

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