



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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QUALITY HOSPITAL PERFORMANCE CONTINUES IN NSW

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today welcomed the latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) Quarterly Report (April-June 2015) which shows NSW hospitals continue to provide high standard and timely access to care for record numbers of patients.

Today's BHI report shows 73 per cent of patients left NSW emergency departments within four hours and elective surgery performance was strong, despite increased volumes.

"Compared to the same quarter last year, 11,926 extra patients visited our emergency departments, 3,458 extra patients were admitted from the emergency department and 250 more elective surgeries were performed," Mrs Skinner said.

"These results are testament to the hard work of doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and hospital staff and I thank them for their dedication to caring for patients across the state."

Today's data shows significant improvement in emergency department performance in hospitals, including:

- **Mount Druiitt Hospital:** 69 per cent of patients treated within four hours - up from 59 per cent at the same time last year.
- **Campbelltown Hospital:** 66 per cent of patients treated within four hours - up from 58 per cent at the same time last year.
- **The Children's Hospital at Westmead:** 70 per cent of patients treated within four hours - up from 62 per cent at the same time last year.
- **Bankstown/Lidcombe Hospital:** 76 per cent of patients treated within four hours - up from 69 per cent at the same time last year.

The BHI also reports performance in clinically-recommended timeframes by surgical specialty, including:

- **Neurosurgery:** 99 per cent of patients are receiving their care within clinically-recommended timeframes, compared to 92 per cent at the same time in 2011.

- **Vascular surgery:** 99 per cent of patients are receiving their care within clinically-recommended timeframes, compared to 94 per cent at the same time in 2011.
- **Cardiothoracic surgery:** 98 per cent of patients are receiving their care within clinically-recommended timeframes, compared to 95 per cent at the same time in 2011.
- **Orthopaedic surgery:** 97 per cent of patients are receiving their care within clinically-recommended timeframes, compared to 91 per cent at the same time in 2011.

Mrs Skinner said the overall improvements in hospital performance in the five years since the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government came to office reflected the great success of a raft of health reforms it has implemented.

“The proportion of patients who received elective surgery in the recommended timeframe is now 97 per cent,” Mrs Skinner said.

“We are continuing to develop new approaches and improve models of care to ensure patients right across NSW are receiving quality, timely care in our hospitals.”

Emergency department performance		
	April-June 2011	April-June 2015
Triage Category 5: Non-urgent	Median time to start treatment: 30 minutes	Median time to start treatment: 23 minutes
Triage Category 4: Semi-urgent	Median time to start treatment: 32 minutes	Median time to start treatment: 26 minutes
Triage Category 3: Urgent	Median time to start treatment: 23 minutes	Median time to start treatment: 21 minutes
Triage Category 2: Emergency	Median time to start treatment: 7 minutes	Median time to start treatment: 8 minutes
Patients leaving the emergency department in four hours	60 per cent	73 per cent

Elective surgery performance		
	April-June 2011	April-June 2015
Urgent	93 per cent on time	100 per cent on time
Semi-urgent	91 per cent on time	98 per cent on time
Non-urgent	92 per cent on time	96 per cent on time

For further information: Visit the Bureau of Health Information website at: http://www.bhi.nsw.gov.au/publications/hospital_quarterly_nsw