



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 7 September 2016

MORE ADMISSIONS AND SURGERIES AT NSW HOSPITALS

NSW hospitals are admitting more patients and performing more elective surgeries than ever before, according to the latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) report.

The BHI Hospital Quarterly report for the April to June 2016 quarter found there were nearly 480,000 hospital admissions overall - the highest level ever reported and an increase of 4.7 per cent compared to the same time last year.

There were 58,583 elective surgery procedures performed - an increase of 7.2 per cent.

More than 636,300 people presented to emergency departments (EDs) - an increase of 1.2 per cent and the highest level reported in an April to June quarter. More than 470,000 patients (or 73.9 per cent) left the ED within four hours.

Concord, Gosford, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and Westmead hospitals saw the greatest improvement in the number of patients who spent four hours or less in the ED, while there is room for improvement at the new South East Regional (Bega) Hospital and at Campbelltown, Nepean and RPA hospitals.

Health Minister Jillian Skinner said hospitals continue to perform at a high standard despite unprecedented demand across the board.

“NSW cares for the largest caseload of patients in the country and our hospitals consistently prove capable of meeting the demand,” Mrs Skinner said.

“I couldn’t be prouder of our expert clinicians and hospital staff and I thank them for the wonderful work they do to achieve these results.”

The BHI data highlights stability in on-time elective surgery performance, with more than 56,000 patients (or 97 per cent) receiving their procedures within clinically-recommended timeframes.

Emergency department performance		
	April - June 2011	April - June 2016
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: 25 minutes
Triage category 3: Urgent	Median time to start treatment: 23 minutes	Median time to start treatment: 20 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	59.6 per cent	73.9 per cent

Elective surgery performance		
Clinical Priority Category	April - June 2011	April - June 2016
All	91.8 per cent on time	97 per cent on time
Urgent	92.8 per cent on time	99.7 per cent on time
Semi-urgent	91.2 per cent on time	97.3 per cent on time
Non-urgent	91.6 per cent on time	95.5 per cent on time

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