

Hospital at Home

OUTCOMES

- Since December 2011 Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire has received 15,001 referrals
- 79% of these patients are managed at home
- The average length of stay is 4-6 days
- We have 64 virtual beds
- Hospital at Home serves a population of around 500,000



Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire serves a population of around 500,000.

We have a staff of approximately 38 WTE and a budget of just under £2M.

We operate from 64 virtual beds across three geographic hubs in Lanarkshire.

Since starting in 2011 (till the end of April 2019), Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire has received 15,001 referrals.

In 2018 we received 2,954 referrals or nearly 250 referrals a month.

79% of these referrals are managed entirely at home. (Some patients are appropriate for admission to hospital).

Our average length of stay is approximately 4-6 days.

Through work with the Scottish Ambulance Service, we are now able to take referrals directly and average 2 referrals per week to the service.

We are currently the largest Hospital at Home service in Scotland and one of the oldest in the UK.

Hospital at Home

COSTS

- Cost per bed day approx 50% of acute bed
- Overall 18% cost saving up to 6 months
- Ambulance costs avoided are £265 per patient at home
- Our average drug costs are just £9



One of the drivers for Hospital at Home services globally is the unsustainable pressure of rising healthcare costs.

The costs of Hospital at Home services are one of the concerns raised about its implementation more widely, as it is seen as a potentially inefficient system.

We have participated in research with the Health Economics Research Unit at the University of Oxford. This evaluation compared Hospital at Home costs to acute care costs for a comparable cohort of patients.

This evaluation showed that patients admitted to Hospital at Home saved on average 18% of costs over a six month period after admission to Hospital at Home.

Savings were even higher for patients with a diagnosis of dementia.

In Lanarkshire the initial costs of implementing Hospital at Home through reshaping care for older people have been offset by the closure of downstream wards that became vacant.

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RESEARCH

- **To date we have worked with 4 separate Universities on evaluations of Hospital at Home.**
- **We participated in the largest randomised controlled trial of Hospital at Home ever conducted.**
- **We have four publications in the press and have presented at 5 international events.**



Since the start of Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire we have been working with key academic partners to evaluate the safety, efficacy, cost effectiveness and experience of Hospital at Home.

We have worked as joint investigators on £3M of NIHR funded research through the University of Oxford.

This included funding for the largest randomised controlled trial of Hospital at Home ever attempted with over 1000 patients recruited.

Lanarkshire recruited patients alongside 9 other centres across the United Kingdom.

As described this also included a cost effectiveness analysis of Hospital at Home services in Scotland.

We have conducted qualitative research with the University of the West of Scotland.

We have a partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University and have started a joint PhD looking at activity levels in Hospital at Home compared to Hospital.

Currently we have four research papers in print and more expected.

We have presented our research at 5 international events.

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INNOVATION

- We are working to explore new and innovative ways of working
- We will be trialling a new device to provide remote monitoring of patients in their own homes.
- We are exploring the use of point of care blood testing to get immediate results at the patient's bedside
- We are keen to explore digital technology.



Innovating has always been central to Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire. In many ways 'doing things differently' is normal for us and opens up opportunities. We are keen to continue to find ways to develop and progress our work and ideally make our services safer and more accessible for the residents of Lanarkshire.

We have experimented with video calling and consultations.

We are working with a Scottish company (Current Health) to test the use of remote monitoring devices that will allow us to track patients vital observations 24 hours a day.

We will shortly be testing the use of point of care blood testing that can use less than 1ml of blood to diagnose biochemical or haematological problems within minutes at the side of a patient's bed.

We are exploring the use of electronic devices to access full hospital case records and diagnostic results in a patient's house at their bedside.

We will be working with the Digital Health Institute to explore pathways and work smarter through the appropriate use of digital solutions.

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GLOBAL NETWORK

- We have welcomed international visitors from 14 countries.
- We have had two TV appearances including participating in a BBC Documentary.
- We have presented our work in 5 countries.
- We have received 4 national awards and commendations.



Hospital at Home in Lanarkshire has attracted considerable international interest.

To date we have had visitors from Chile, Brazil, Hong Kong, Singapore, Spain, England, Northern Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Venezuela, Japan and New Zealand.

In addition we have presented our work in Taiwan, Canada, Italy, Spain and to a National UK audience.

We have hosted visitors from every mainland health board in Scotland and from Scottish Government.

Our work has featured in a BBC Documentary ('Holding back the years') and been the subject of news reports on TV and radio as well as featuring in several newspapers.

We have received 4 National awards and a commendation which included awards from:

The Herald Society Scotland (Award and Commendation)

The Scottish Ambulance Society

Alzheimers Scotland

In addition we have been finalists three times at the Scottish Health Awards.

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