STRENGTHEN YOUR WEEKEND
Plan your diary carefully

AT WEEKENDS THE MORTALITY RATE GOES UP

Reducing the 20% increase in mortality at weekends will save patient lives

PATIENTS ADMITTED AS EMERGENCIES AT WEEKENDS HAVE:

- A greater risk of not surviving treatment
- A greater chance of not receiving a diagnostic test on the day of admission
- A greater chance of having to wait for a repair of a broken hip or other fracture
- A greater chance of having to return to hospital
CASE STUDY

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

Ten reasons University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS trust has improved repairs of broken hips at the weekend

01  The working patterns are now the same seven days a week.

02  Hip fractures are a priority on the trauma list and operated on as early as possible.

03  There are dedicated trauma lists seven days a week.

04  ‘Planned’ trauma (i.e. ankle fracture repairs) are booked on weekdays to keep weekend trauma lists free for hip fractures.

05  There is an A–Z for hip fractures for junior doctors.

06  The weekend anaesthetist is a senior member of staff.

07  The orthopaedic Perioperative Specialist Practitioner team now provides a seven-day service.

08  The hip fracture integrated care pathway is now used widely.

09  There is a dedicated trauma ward for hip fractures seven days a week and dedicated physiotherapy at weekends.

10  There is a review of all delays that exceed 36 hours.

ACROSS THE NHS, THE STANDARD OF CARE AT WEEKENDS IS WORSE THAN ON WEEKDAYS BUT EFFORTS TO FIX THIS ARE WORKING
Setting the scene

Dr Foster has been publishing information about weekend mortality rates for the past nine years in a special Hospital Guide. Although some hospitals have taken steps to improve the situation, there remain marked differences in the quality of care on weekends compared to weekdays.

Patients admitted as emergencies at weekends are less likely to survive compared to those admitted on weekdays; and are less likely to have emergency operations within a day of admission. They are also more likely to be discharged with an unsatisfactory outcome after discharge.

These are very unplanned admissions to hospital on Saturdays and Sundays, and patients who have planned operations on weekdays are more likely to receive their operation in the week rather than later when their immediate post-operative care takes place over the weekend.

There are very few planned (elective) admissions to hospital on the weekends, and patients who have planned operations on weekdays are more likely to receive their planned operations in the week rather than later when their immediate post-operative care takes place over the weekend.

Doctors.net.uk believed that patients admitted as emergencies at weekends are less likely to survive compared to those admitted on weekdays; and are less likely to have emergency operations within a day of admission.

20% | 24%
---|---
LOWER ON WEEKDAYS | LOWER ON WEEKENDS

74% | 76%
---|---
LOWER ON WEEKDAYS | HIGHER ON WEEKENDS

10% | 24%
---|---
LOWER ON WEEKENDS | HIGHER ON WEEKENDS

PERCENTAGE OF DOCTORS WHO THINK THAT PATIENTS ADMITTED AT THE WEEKEND HAVE POORER QUALITY OF CARE THAN PATIENTS ADMITTED ON WEEKDAYS

MIDDLE-GRADE DOCTORS

JUNIOR DOCTORS ARE MORE LIKELY THAN SENIOR ONES TO HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT CARE AT WeekEndS.

SENIOR ONES TO HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT PROPERITY OF CARE AT WEEKENDS.
STRENGTHEN your WEEKEND

MORTALITY IS 20% HIGHER ON WEEKENDS
TIMELY MRI SCANS ARE 42% LOWER ON WEEKENDS
WAITING FOR REPAIR OF BROKEN HIP IS 24% HIGHER ON WEEKENDS
READMISSIONS ARE 3.9% HIGHER FOR WEEKEND ADMISSIONS

IMPROVEMENTS are BEING MADE
Eight trusts have made significant improvements in their weekend emergency HSMR

To learn more, visit
myhospitalguide.com/weekends