Mind's FOI data

Freedom of Information data on follow-up after hospital

April 2017

A note on the data

Mind wanted to find out how many people are being followed up in a timely fashion once they have been discharged from adult mental health inpatient services. Given the high suicide rate among people recently discharged from hospital, following up with people after they leave hospital has been identified as a key suicide prevention measure. NICE guidelines currently say follow-up should be within seven days, or 48 hours where a suicide risk is identified.

NHS England publishes data on the numbers of people followed up in seven days after discharge who are being treated under the Care Programme Approach (CPA) but not others leaving hospital. The CPA is the approach in England to co-ordinating care for people in contact with mental health services who have more complex mental health needs and who need the support of a multidisciplinary team. Although local practice will vary, it is estimated that around a quarter of people leaving mental health hospitals are not discharged under the CPA.

We sent Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to all mental health trusts in England and Welsh Health Boards to find out the number of people followed up from care (both those on a CPA and others), within 7 days and within 48 hours. A few organisations did not respond to our FOI request and some provided incomplete information. Only 12 trusts provided us with information about follow-up within 48 hours; others did not record this information electronically or collect it centrally.

In order to estimate the total number of people not being followed up in England, we used data published by NHS England on total discharges for 2015/16 in conjunction with the responses to our FOI. For most trusts the NHS Digital discharge figures were higher than those given in the FOI responses – overall the number of discharges in the FOI response was 72 per cent of NHS Digital's total for the same organisations. This will be at least partly explained by types of service not included in the FOI and discharges from one inpatient service to another. For consistency, in arriving at our estimated total we used 72 per cent of NHS Digital's total (122,262) as our base.

It was not possible to estimate a similar picture in Wales due to the lack of information provided by Welsh Health Boards. However a similar rate of follow-up would add approximately 900 people not being followed up within a week.

Given the level of uncertainty we are concluding that at least one in ten people are not being followed up within seven days, which amounts to at least 11,000 people in England and Wales.

We have published the data provided in response to our FOI requests, and where we believe data to be incomplete, we have noted this (*).

England 2015-16

Figures in green are corrections made by the Trust following publication.

Trust	No. of people discharged	No. of people followed up within 7 days	No. of people not followed up within 7 days	% of people followed up within 7 days	
Estimated totals for all providers based on NHS digital data and extrapolating from this information	88,029	77,465	10,564	88%	
Totals from information provided in the FOI	73474	64850	8624	88%	
2gether NHS Foundation Trust	Data not provided				
5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	2205	2117	88	96%	
Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust	2174	2101	73	97%	
Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust	1621	1608	13	99%	
Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	1138	1122	16	99%	
Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	2366	2293	73	97%	
Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1052	969	83	92%	
Bradford District Care Trust	779	754	25	97%	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust	1771	1704	67	96%	
Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust	Data not provided				
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	2748	2675	73	97%	
Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1653	1449	204	88%	
Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	417	405	12	97%	
Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust	922	920	2	99%	*
Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1108	969	139	87%	
Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Data not provided				
Devon Partnership NHS Trust	239	234	5	98%	*

Trust	No. of people discharged	No. of people followed up within 7 days	No. of people not followed up within 7 days	% of people followed up within 7 days	
Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust	1212	1175	37	98%	
Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust	1284	1248	36	97%	
East London NHS Foundation Trust	1703	1285	418	75%	
Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	1403	1362	41	97%	
Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	990	851	139	86%	
Humber NHS Foundation Trust	886	856	30	97%	*
Isle of Wight NHS Trust	529	513	16	97%	
Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust	2369	2200	169	93%	
Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust	1226	1186	40	97%	*
Leeds and York Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust	Data not provided				
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust	1260	1070	190	85%	
Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	817	773	44	95%	
Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust	1159	1096	63	95%	
Mersey Care NHS Trust	1120	1104	16	99%	*
Navigo (Community Interest Company serving North East Lincolnshire)	279	248	31	89%	
Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust	2000	1814	186	91%	
North East London NHS Foundation Trust	1328	1130	198	85%	
North Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1421	1367	54	96%	
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust	1359	458	901	34%	**
Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Data not provided				
Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust	1677	1654	23	99%	
Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust	1207	1044	54	96%	

Trust	No. of people discharged	No. of people followed up within 7 days	No. of people not followed up within 7 days	% of people followed up within 7 days	
Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust	771	733	38	95%	
Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	2483	692 918	1791	28%	**
Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust	2658	1948	710	73%	
Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	1066	731	335	69%	
Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust	729	644	85	88%	
Solent NHS Trust	319 244	236	83 8	74% 97%	
Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	918	890	28	97%	
South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	342	310	32	91%	*
South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust	3656	3048	608	83%	
South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	1709	1401	308	82%	
South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust	1856	1781	75	96%	
South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Incomplete data provided				
Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust	2400	2101	299	88%	
Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	956	923	33	97%	*
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	3099	2975	124	96%	
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	2842	2562	280	90%	
West London	1596	1478	118	93%	
Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust	652	643	9	99%	*

* Figures provided by the trust either state or suggest that only those people discharged under the Care Programme Approach have been included. NHS England discharge figures suggest total discharges are likely to be significantly higher.

** The trust data either state or suggest that we have been given the total number of discharges but follow-up figures only for those people discharged under the Care Programme Approach.

Wales 2015-16

Health Board	No. of people discharged	No. of people followed up within 7 days	No. of people not followed up within 7 days	% of people followed up within 7 days	
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University	1205	Data not provided			
Aneurin Bevan	1508	822			*
Betsi Cadwaladr University	1527	Data not provided			
Cardiff and Vale University	Data not provided				
Cwm Taf	408	Data not provided			
Hywel Dda	751	724	27	96%	**

* Aneurin Bevan's data covers face-to-face follow-up only; follow-up by phone call is not recorded centrally

** Hywel Dda's entry is our estimate based on the figure for the total number of people discharged and the percentage of people followed up in a sample month. As with most of the health boards this information is not recorded centrally.