

Specialised Services Monitor -

Insight for CCGs into specialised commissioning activity demand and flow



Background

NHS England (NHSE) and Local Area Teams have the overall responsibility for commissioning specialised services within England which currently accounts for approximately 14% of the total NHS budget.

Funding for this is derived from annual top slicing of Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) allocations based on a per capita apportionment of their expected demand. This is nationally defined by the NHSE who have published standard rules for this activity and how it is calculated.

While this commissioning remains with the NHSE, CCGs need to ensure that their apportionment is appropriate and that they are not mistakenly billed for these patients by providers. CCGs also need to assure that local referral pathways comply with the rules in order to provide best care for patients and guarantee this activity continues to be funded by the NHSE.

"Everyone who works with data knows how many hours can be wasted going down a blind alley. CHKS has been working with NHS Trusts for over two decades which means CHKS analysts can share their learning on what the common issues may warrant further investigation which in turn helps us prioritise quickly what to focus on."

Deputy Director of Information and Information Technology

What we do

Specialised Services Monitor is a monthly analytics and reporting service from CHKS, that provides CCGs with a profile of the flow of their patients into NHSE commissioned specialised services during the financial year.

Using monthly pseudonymised extracts from SUS (or quarterly HES extracts if access to SUS is not possible), data is run through the Health and Social Care Information Centre's (HSCIC) Prescribed Specialised Services Identification Tool to generate a list of CCG patients who qualified against the rules.

These records are then cross checked to ensure the activity was actually recorded as being commissioned by the NHSE and not the CCG. Further analysis is then undertaken to identify activity that matched the qualifying conditions but failed to comply with any specified provider pathway rules.

These results are presented as standard monthly report containing key performance measures including:

- The volume of activity monthly and cumulatively by individual specialised service
- The volume and value of activity each month that qualified but was assigned by a provider to the CCG instead of the NHSE
- The volume of activity that didn't qualify for NHSE assignment due to failing pathway compliance and the value of this by condition and practice.

Benefits

Specialised services monitoring enables commissioners to track the activity commissioned on their behalf by the NHSE during the financial year in order to assess if this is in line with their top sliced apportionment.

The patient tracking helps CCGs to ensure activity is billed correctly by their acute providers to avoid double payment. Non-compliant pathway referral patterns can also be highlighted so they can address these with their GP practices in order to improve patient care.

The ongoing reporting also provides CCGs with evidence to support negotiations with the NHSE over future annual spending allocations.

Why us?

Our solutions are built on a deep understanding of the challenges facing the NHS. We've been a trusted partner of the NHS for over 25 years and have supported more than 300 NHS providers and commissioners to improve standards and safety, lower costs and enable front line staff to concentrate on the critical job of patient care.

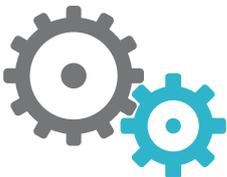
As part of the Payment by Results data assurance framework, CHKS has successfully delivered over 1000 audits on behalf of the Department of Health, and has supported several commissioner challenges over data/tariffs. Our support also includes highly experienced NHS data analysts to help you identify the issues behind the data.

Further support

Specialised Services Monitor is part of a wider portfolio of analytics and reporting available to commissioners from Capita Healthcare Analytics.

These additional services include:

- Health economy and contract modelling
- National CCG and provider benchmarking
- Provider coding improvement impact analysis
- Membership services
- Patient surveys.



"CHKS account management is invaluable. I know I will get the one-to-one support from someone who understands the way an NHS trust works and that makes a big difference when it comes to interpreting data."

Director of Information

Find out more

www.capitahealthandwellbeing.co.uk/healthcareintelligence

Or email us at: info@chks.co.uk

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