# ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2023

## A&E Health Inequalities briefing



This is the first in a **series** of briefings to support Board members across the Integrated Care System in **understanding** health inequalities for a specific area in more detail; these briefings sit alongside performance reporting. These briefings will also support our Coventry & Warwickshire **Health Inequalities Strategic Plan** that sets out how we are going to reduce health inequalities over the next five years.

This briefing looks at A&E data, specifically emergency attendances and direct admissions, called **emergency presentations** from this point onwards, for data between **April 2019 to March 2020** (pre-COVID-19) and **April 2021 to March 2022** (post-COVID-19). See the further information page for more detail on sources and definitions.

#### **KEY MESSAGES**



**Increasing rate** of emergency presentations post-COVID-19 pandemic.



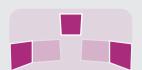
Emergency presentations are proportionally higher in **CORE20** deprived areas.



Patients wait longer in A&E departments if they are from a CORE20 area.



While both ethnicity and deprivation have an impact on emergency presentations, the impact is felt most in those patients who are from an ethnic minority and who live in our most deprived communities.



Deprivation and belonging to an ethnic minority group are having the most impact on A&E wait times and are the populations likely to be least well served.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**



Improve ethnicity recording (21% to 28% incomplete) across all datasets, ensuring a consistent approach to how ethnic groups are recorded and aggregated. This will give further confidence in any identified actions based on the data.



Further segment the A&E four hour wait data to focus on those patients from both an ethnic minority group and a CORE20 area.



Additional analysis to be undertaken to understand Warwickshire North's differing position to other places in the system in relation to emergency presentations.



Recognise that health inequalities is broader than looking at data by ethnicity or deprivation. Although largely not captured in current datasets, there are many other wider factors (such as transport, housing and economic circumstances) that are critical in improving health among our populations.

#### **NEXT STEPS**



Continued focus on data quality issues, including accruacy, timeliness and completeness of activity across our system. A data quality assessment led by the ICB BI team will support the development of our Health Inequalities Assurance Framework.



Publishing issue 2 Health Inequalities briefing on Outpatient Do Not Attends.

**UP NEXT: INSIGHT** 





## **Emergency Presentations**



#### **PLACE & ARRIVALS**



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Every place, apart from Warwickshire North, had an **increase** in emergency presentations post-COVID-19

Arrival by ambulance/helicopter has decreased whilst **walk-in arrivals** have increased



#### **DEPRIVATION**



#### CORE20

Although emergency presentations are still highest in CORE20 (the **20% most deprived**) areas, pre and post-COVID-19 they have remained relatively stable. Additonal analysis indicates activity is proportionally higher in CORE20 deprived areas when compared to their population proportions

Post-COVID-19, those people that fall within the **40% least deprived** (deciles 7 to 10) saw an increase in emergency presentations

The rate rose from 236 per 1,000 population pre-COVID-19 to **262** per 1,000 post-COVID-19

### **AGE & GENDER**



More children aged **0 to 19** have presented at A&E post-COVID-19

The rate per 1,000 of the Coventry and Warwickshire population has increased from 316 to **355** 

1,000	Pre- COVID-19	Post- COVID-19
Male Male	267 329	<b>277</b> (All ages) <b>371</b> (0 to 19)
Female	e 281 301	<b>293</b> (All ages) <b>339</b> (0 to 19)

A similar increase in emergency presentations can be seen for male and female patients

However, **males aged 0 to 19** access A&E more than females of the same age

#### **ETHNICITY**



Ethnicity missing for 1 in 5 patients

Across Coventry & Warwickshire, all ethnic groups have seen an **increase** in emergency presentations post-COVID-19 except White Irish which has stayed static

Those from both an ethnic minority group and a CORE20 area have experienced an increase in emergency presentations post-COVID-19

Post-COVID-19, the largest increase in rate per 1,000 of those from **CORE20** areas are:



Those of an **other ethnic group** where the rate has increased from 806 to 888 post-COVID-19



Those of an **Asian or Asian British** ethnicity where the rate has increased from 242 to 286 post-COVID-19





## Accident and Emergency waiting times



Health inequalities amongst patients waiting **more than 4 hours** to be seen at A&E within Coventry and Warwickshire

Taken from Actionable Insights (NHS England)





Based on the proportion of patients from the **20% most deprived**, 35.4% had waited more than 4 hours. Coventry and Warwickshire ranks **9 out of 42** systems, where 42 has the highest proportion



Higher levels of Health Inequality

Closing the inequality gap between **mixed ethnicity and white** patients would have resulted in **177 fewer** four hour wait breaches every year\*





Higher levels of Health Inequality

Closing the inequality gap between patients of any **other ethnic** group compared to those of white ethnicity would have resulted in **248 fewer** four hour wait breaches every year\*

Based on the proportion of patients from the **other ethnic** group, 33.9% have waited more than 4 hours. Our system ranks **19 out of 42** systems, where 42 has the highest proportion\*

Higher levels of Health Inequality

CLOSING THE GAP



## **Further Information**

This page details the further information on this Health Inequalities briefing (Issue 1), including the data sources and caveats for the **Emergency Presentations** and **Accident and Emergency waiting times** sections.

DEFINITION

**Health inequalities** are unfair and **avoidable** differences in health across the population, and between different groups within society. **CORE20PLUS5** is an approach to reducing health inequalities.





Health inequalities amongst the Coventry and Warwickshire population are **widening** with people living longer but in poorer health, and with a diverse range of different needs from health and care services.

Our physical environment (air quality), health behaviours (diet, smoking and alcohol conumption) and **socio-economic factors** (i.e. wider detereminants of health such as income, education, housing) are critical in efforts to improve health among out most **socially disadvantaged populations**.



137,208 of people in Coventry and
Warwickshire live in the top 20% most
deprived areas nationally; equating to 14.2%.



The gap in **life expectancy** between the most and least deprived is widening; a ten year gap now exists for males in Coventry.





All Coventry and Warwickshire patients accessing A&E across the reporting time period (emergency attendances and direct admissions).

### **Emergency Presentations** data sources and caveats:



Data source: Emergency presentation rates were calculated using a snapshot of the GP population as at 1st January 2020 (pre- COVID-19 and 1st January 2022 (post-COVID-19) from the Data Management Evironment (DME).

Caveat: Direct access admissions included as UHCW changed clinical pathways and recording when COVID-19 was active, so not all emergency demand attend A&E.

### Accident and Emergency waiting times data sources and caveats:



Data source: Foundry (Health Inequalities Workspace: Actionable Insights) from NHS England for 1st April 2021 to 27th October 2022.

Caveat: The ethnic categories considered are: Asian and Asian British, Black and Black British, mixed ethnicity, 'other' ethnicities and patients whose ethnicity is not recorded. Each of these is compared to patients whose ethnicity is recorded as White.



