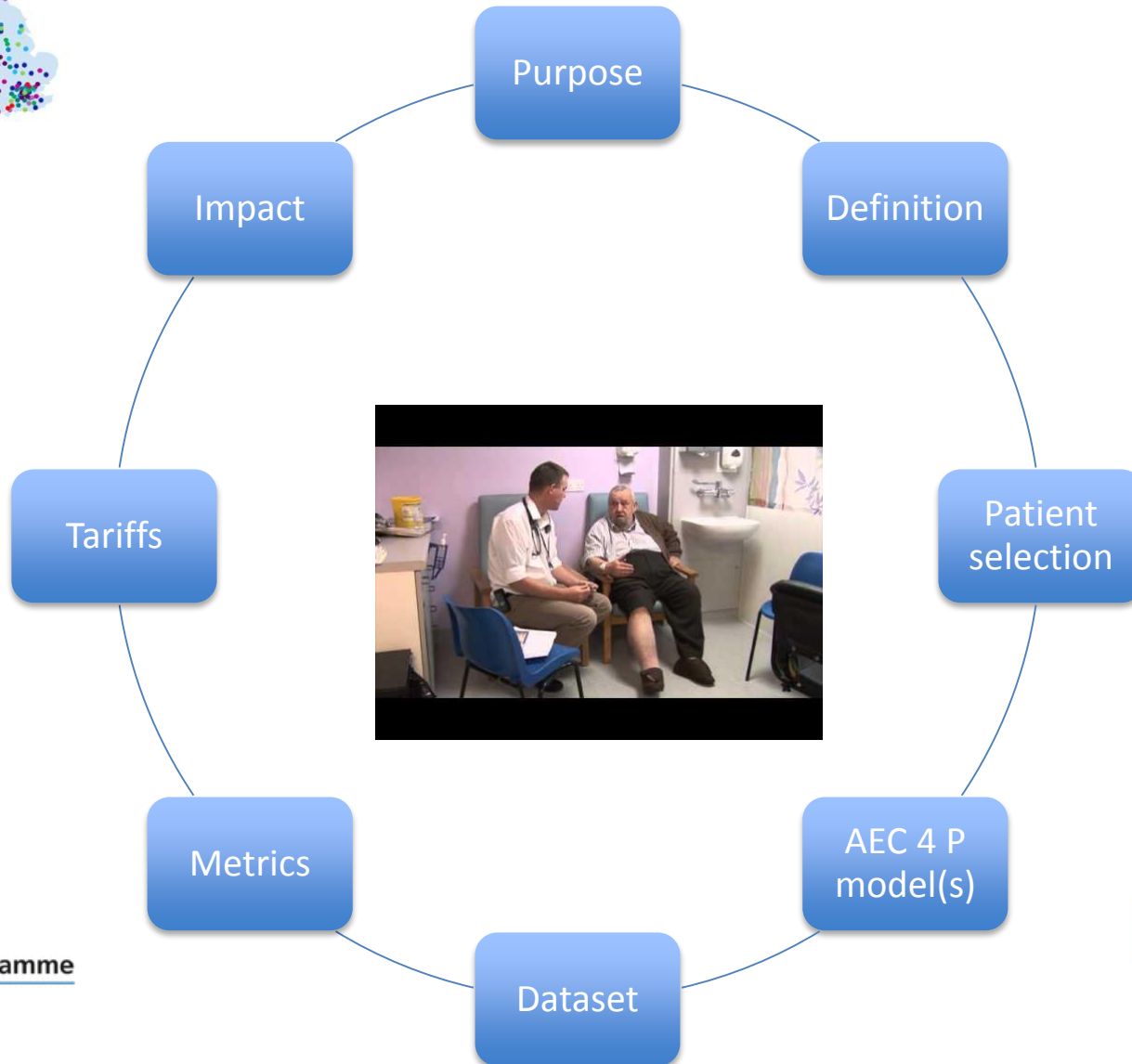
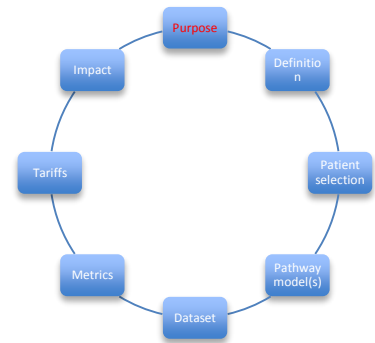




AEC



Purpose



Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) is the provision of same day emergency care



It is a well-established model in which stable patients with acute conditions for whom inpatient admission would previously have been the default option are assessed, investigated, treated, and able to return home on the same day.

Emergency Care Improvement Programme

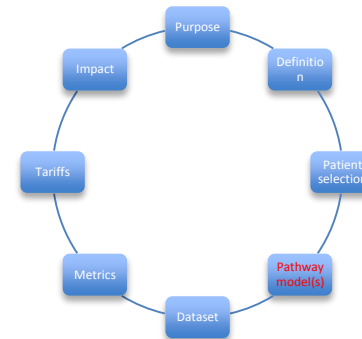
Safer, faster, better care for patients

Rapid Improvement Guide to:

Maximising Ambulatory Emergency Care services

NHS

Improvement



NHS

Ambulatory Emergency Care Network



Royal College of Physicians

Setting higher standards

Acute care toolkit 10

Ambulatory emergency care
October 2014

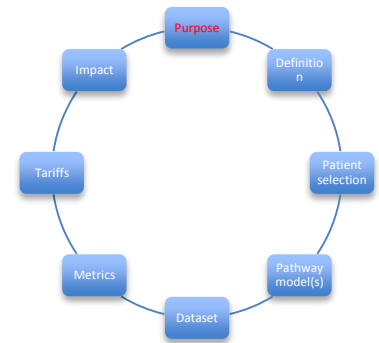
Across the UK, emergency systems are under considerable pressure, with emergency department (ED) attendances and the conversion rate to hospital admission both rising. Some clinical teams across England have recognised that a new approach is needed, and have successfully redesigned their systems to manage demand by implementing ambulatory emergency care (AEC) as part of the solution.^{1,2} AEC has the potential to have a similar impact on emergency care as day surgery has had on planned care.



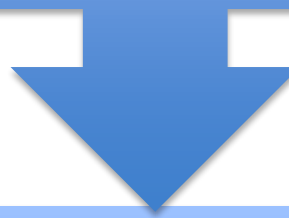
Ambulatory Emergency Care Position Statement

July 2017

Scope

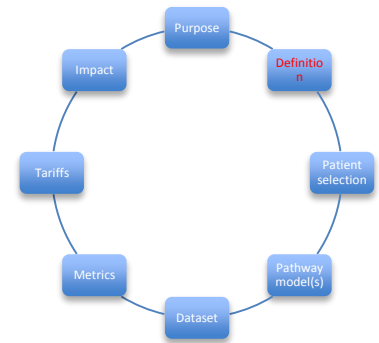


It is expected that hospitals introducing AEC could convert 30% of acute medical admissions to ambulatory care episodes² with further potential in other specialty groups including surgical disciplines.



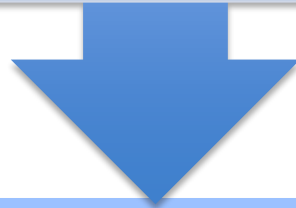
NHS Improvement recommends the optimal model to be a service that is open for 'at least' 12 hours a day, seven days a week, considering all patients presenting acutely who are not clinically unstable².

Definition of NEW AEC activity



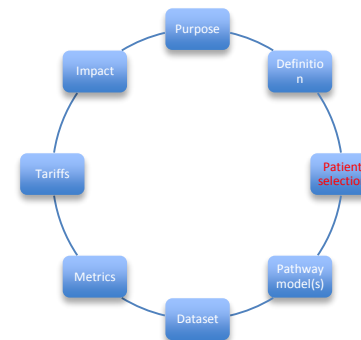
For the purpose of counting AEC activity

AEC refers to the investigation, care and treatment of patients for whom in the absence of an AEC service, admission to hospital would have been the default option.



This definition is for the purpose of identifying new AEC activity.

Patient Selection for AEC



Clinical stability established by recording a NEWS and a clinical discussion

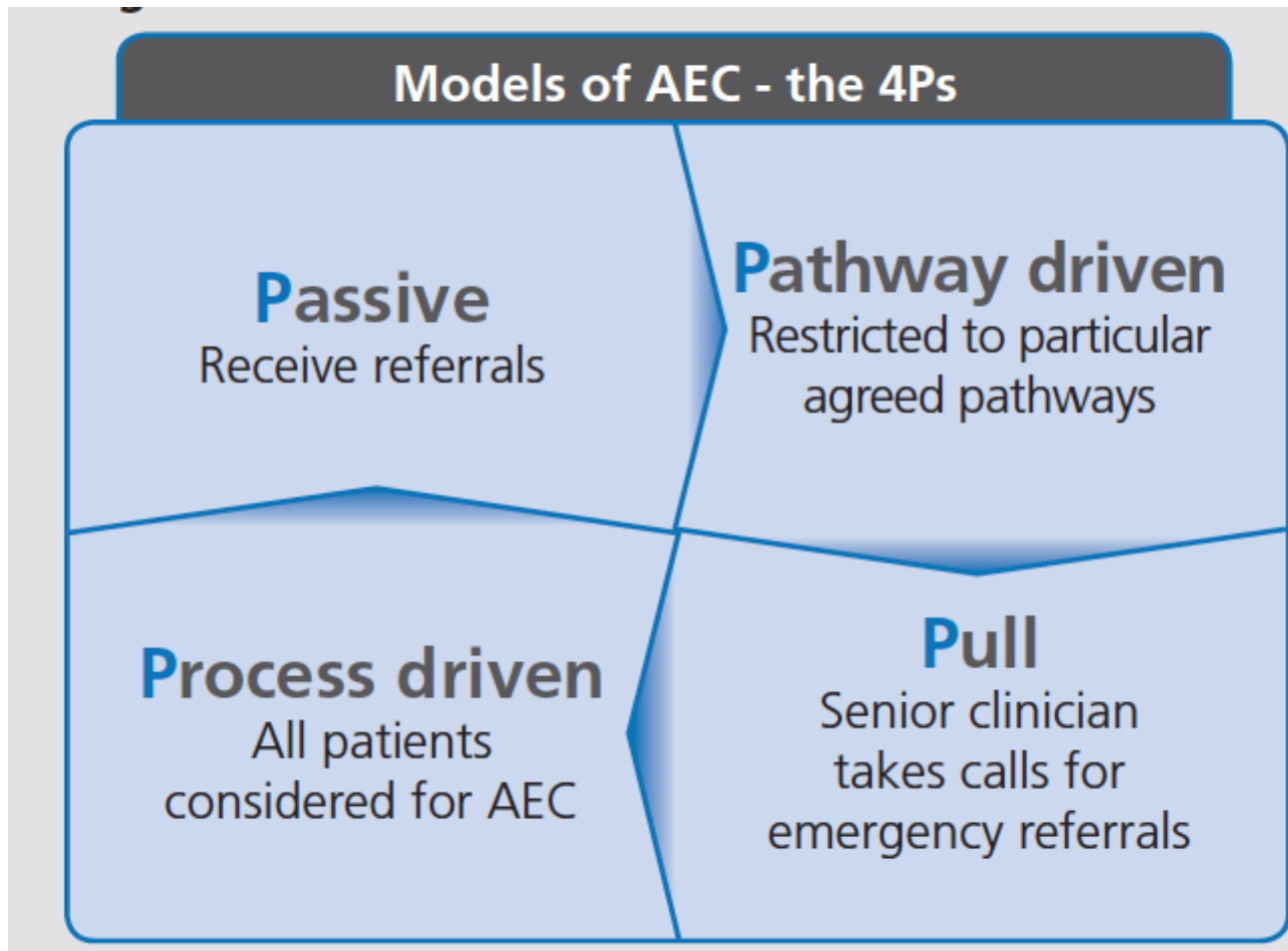
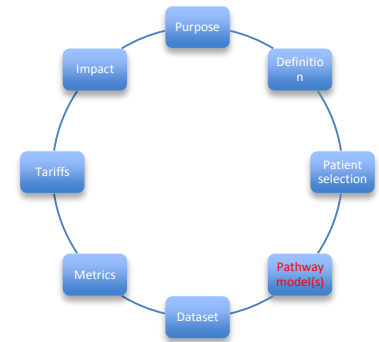


AEC being the best place to meet the patient's required clinical needs

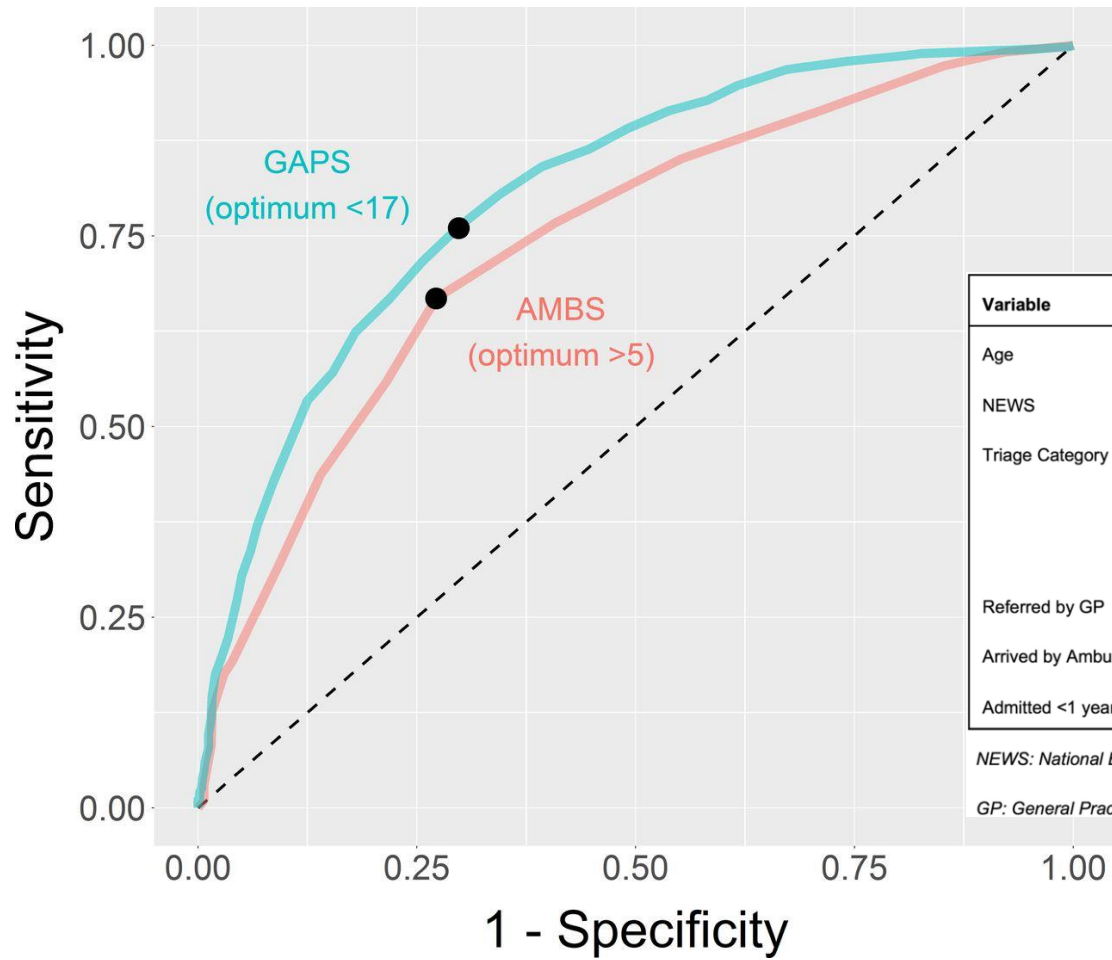


The staffing and facilities can ensure the patient's privacy and dignity are maintained

AEC admission pathways



GAPS vs AMBS

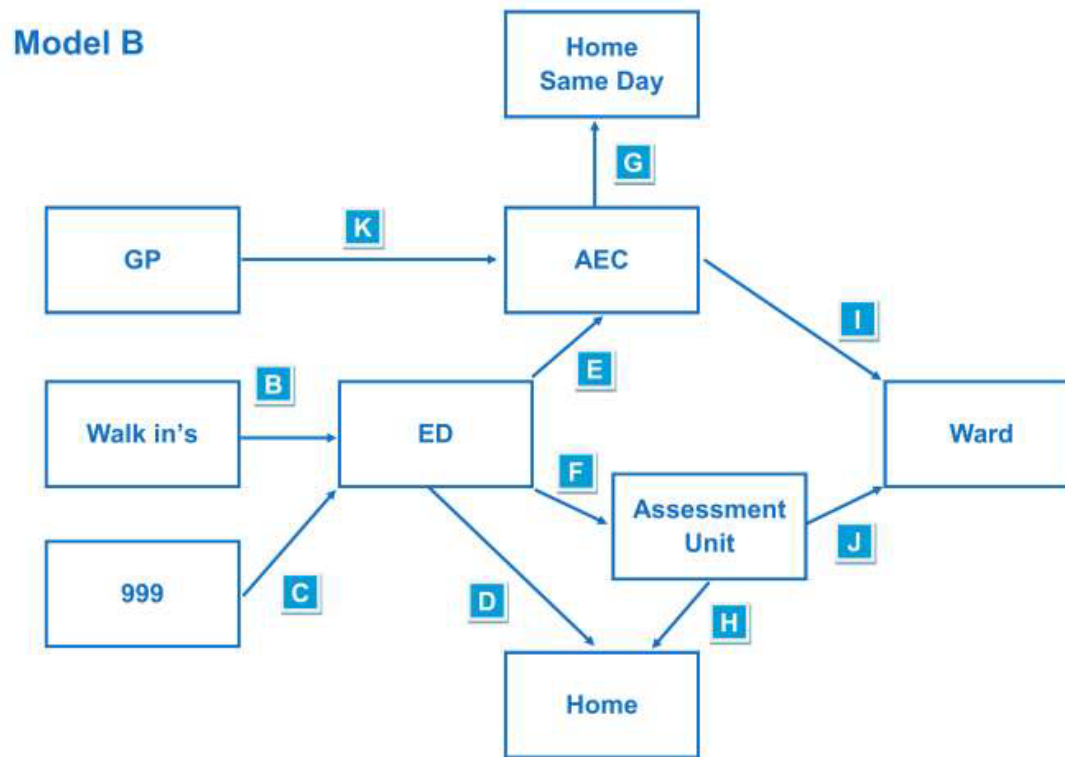


Variable	Points
Age	1 point per decade
NEWS	1 point per point on NEWS
Triage Category	3 5
	2 10
	1 20
Referred by GP	10
Arrived by Ambulance	5
Admitted <1 year ago	5

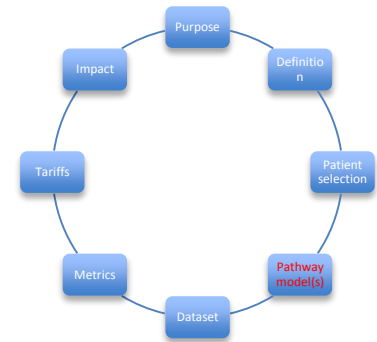
NEWS: National Early Warning Score

GP: General Practitioner

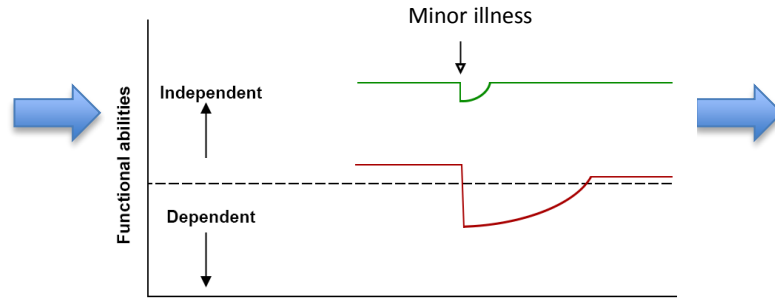
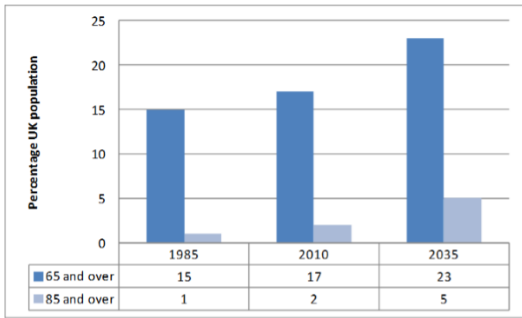
Numerators and denominators



AEC efficiency



	Managed in AEC	Not managed in AEC
	Conversion	
Appropriate for AEC	Group 1: Success (expect about 10% conversion rate)	Group 3: Missed opportunity
Not appropriate for AEC	Group 4a: Waste (patient could be managed in another outpatient service)	Group 2: Success (appropriate inpatient care)
	Group 4b: Risk (patient too sick/complex at time of selection)	



CFS Grade	LoS	Readmission rate	In-patient mortality
1	4	4%	2%
2	5	7%	2%
3	7	11%	2%
4	8	13%	3%
5	10	15%	4%
6	12	15%	6%
7	13	14%	11%
8	12	10%	24%
9	10	13%	31%

NHS Acute Frailty Network

Clinical Frailty Scale

1 Very Fit – People who are robust, active, energetic and motivated. These people commonly exercise regularly. They are among the fittest for their age.

2 Well – People who have no active disease symptoms but are less fit than category 1. Often, they exercise or are very active occasionally, e.g. seasonally.

3 Managing Well – People whose medical problems are well controlled, but are not regularly active beyond routine walking.

4 Vulnerable – While not dependent on others for daily help, often symptoms limit activities. A common complaint is being "slowed up", and/or being tired during the day.

5 Mildly Frail – These people often have more evident slowing, and need help in high order IADLs (finances, transportation, heavy housework, medications). Typically, mild frailty progressively impairs shopping and walking outside alone, meal preparation and housework.

6 Moderately Frail – People need help with all outside activities and with keeping house. Inside, they often have problems with stairs and need help with bathing and might need minimal assistance (cuing, standby) with dressing.

7 Severely Frail – Completely dependent for personal care, from whatever cause (physical or cognitive). Even so, they seem stable and not at high risk of dying (within ~6 months).

8 Very Severely Frail – Completely dependent, approaching the end of life. Typically, they could not recover even from a minor illness.

9 Terminally Ill – Approaching the end of life. This category applies to people with a life expectancy <6 months, who are not otherwise evidently frail.

Scoring frailty in people with dementia

The degree of frailty corresponds to the degree of dementia. Common **symptoms in mild dementia** include forgetting the details of a recent event, though still remembering the event itself, repeating the same question/story and social withdrawal.

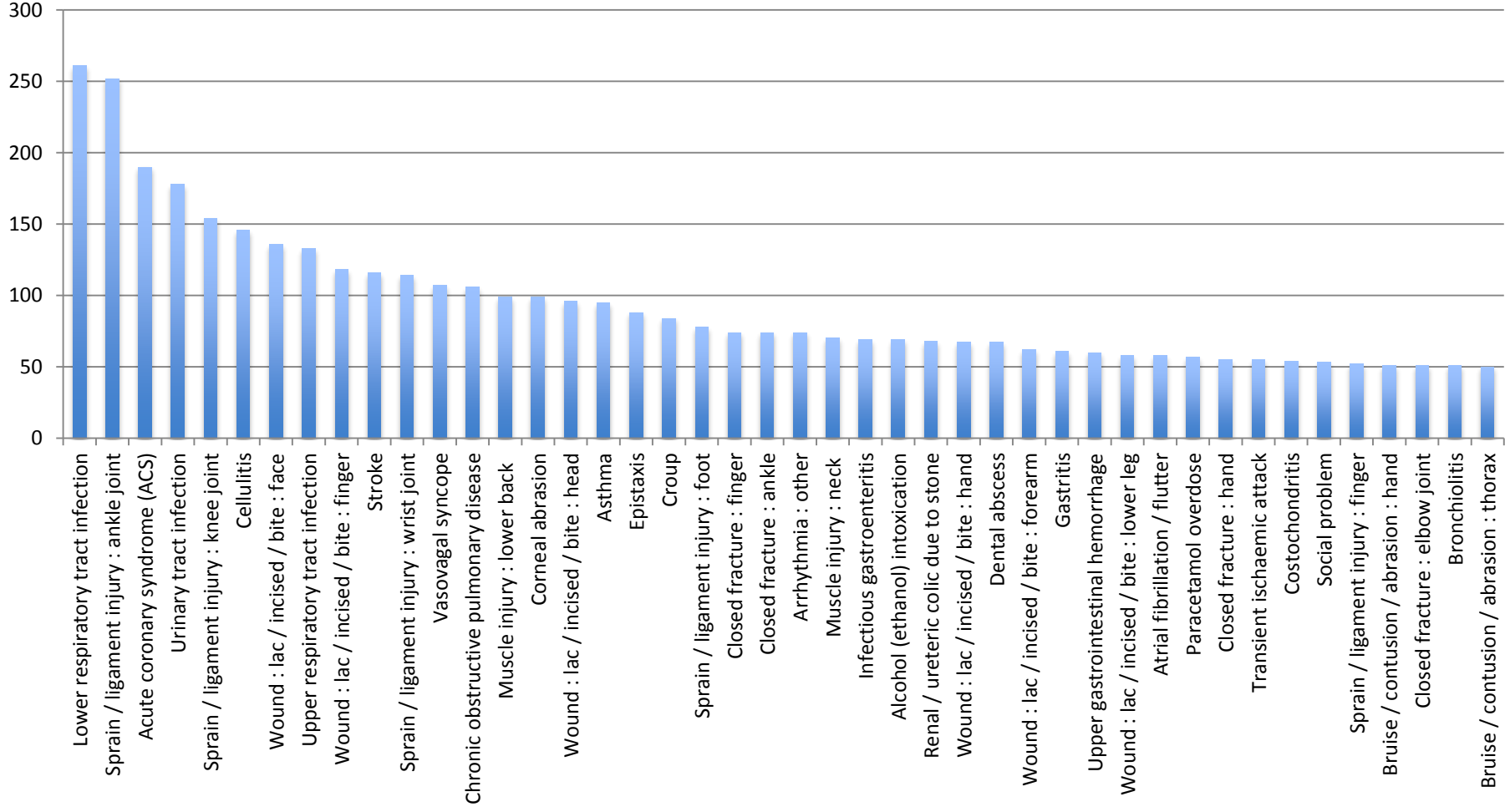
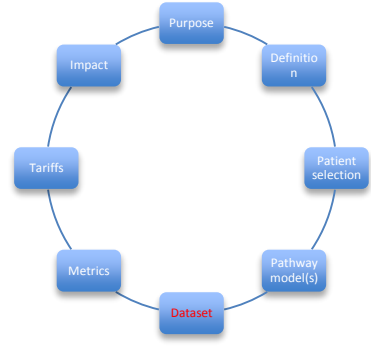
In **moderate dementia**, recent memory is very impaired, even though they seemingly can remember their past life events well. They can do personal care with prompting.

In **severe dementia**, they cannot do personal care without help.

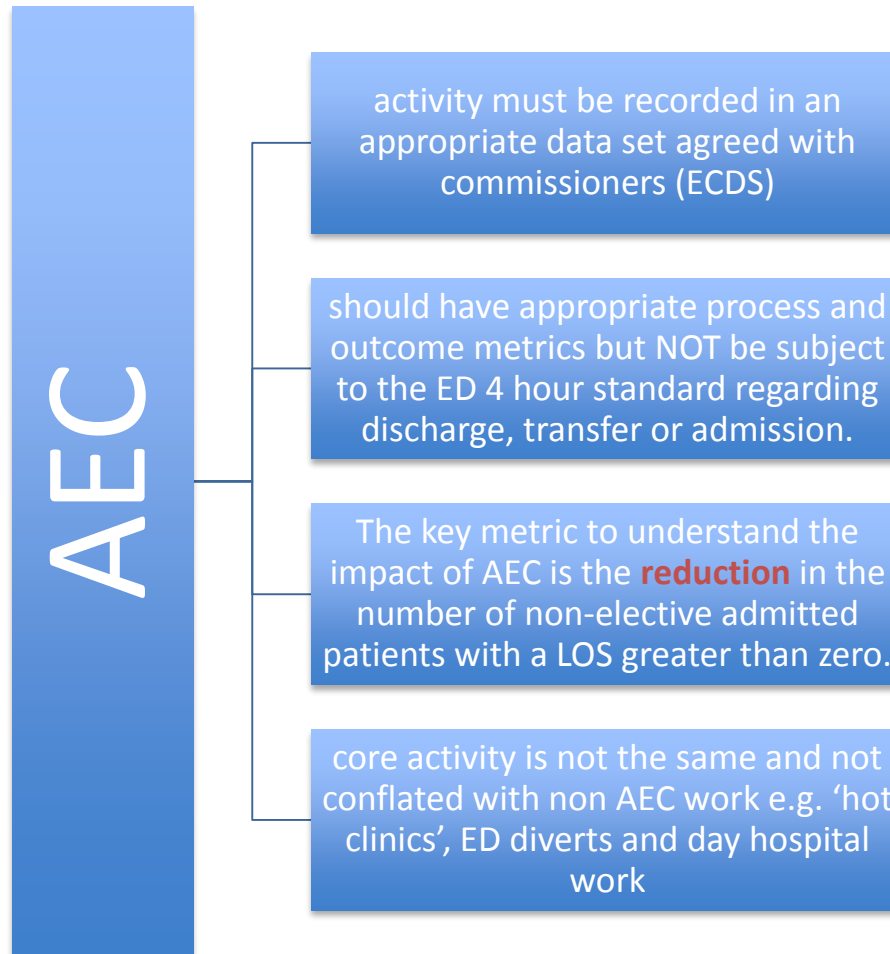
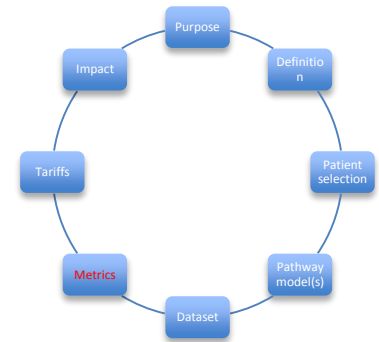
The geriatric syndromes are especially common in moderate to severely frail older people

- falls/immobility
- delirium/dementia
- depression
- poly-pharmacy
- incontinence, asymptomatic bacteruria etc

AECDS (ED)



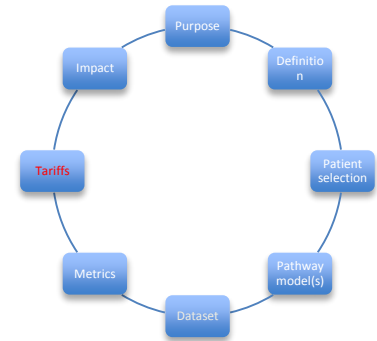
Metrics



Same Day Emergency Care Rates

Clinical scenario	75th percentile rate	Current national average rate
Abdominal pain	40%	35%
Anaemia	16%	12%
Bladder outflow obstruction	30%	23%
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)	2.1%	1.6%
Community acquired pneumonia	12%	10%
Low risk pubic rami	13%	10%
Minor head injury	64%	56%
Supraventricular tachycardias (SVT) including atrial fibrillation (AF)	34%	29%
Transient ischaemic attack (TIA)	30%	26%

Tariffs



Tariff discussion re the marginal tariff, the 48hr threshold and AEC reimbursement.

Marginal rates

Re-baselining the marginal tariff from 2008/9 to 2017/18

Re-balancing from 70/30 to 80/20 or 90/10

Creating a national AEC tariff

AEC tariff - set a level of payment somewhere between an A&E attendance and a non-elective admission

As AECDs comes into widespread use, we may have access to richer data on:

Patient demographics

Episode information

Clinical information

Disposition

It is madness that the tariff for admission is reduced if the LoS is < 48hrs. Every time we make care more efficient and effective we lose money!

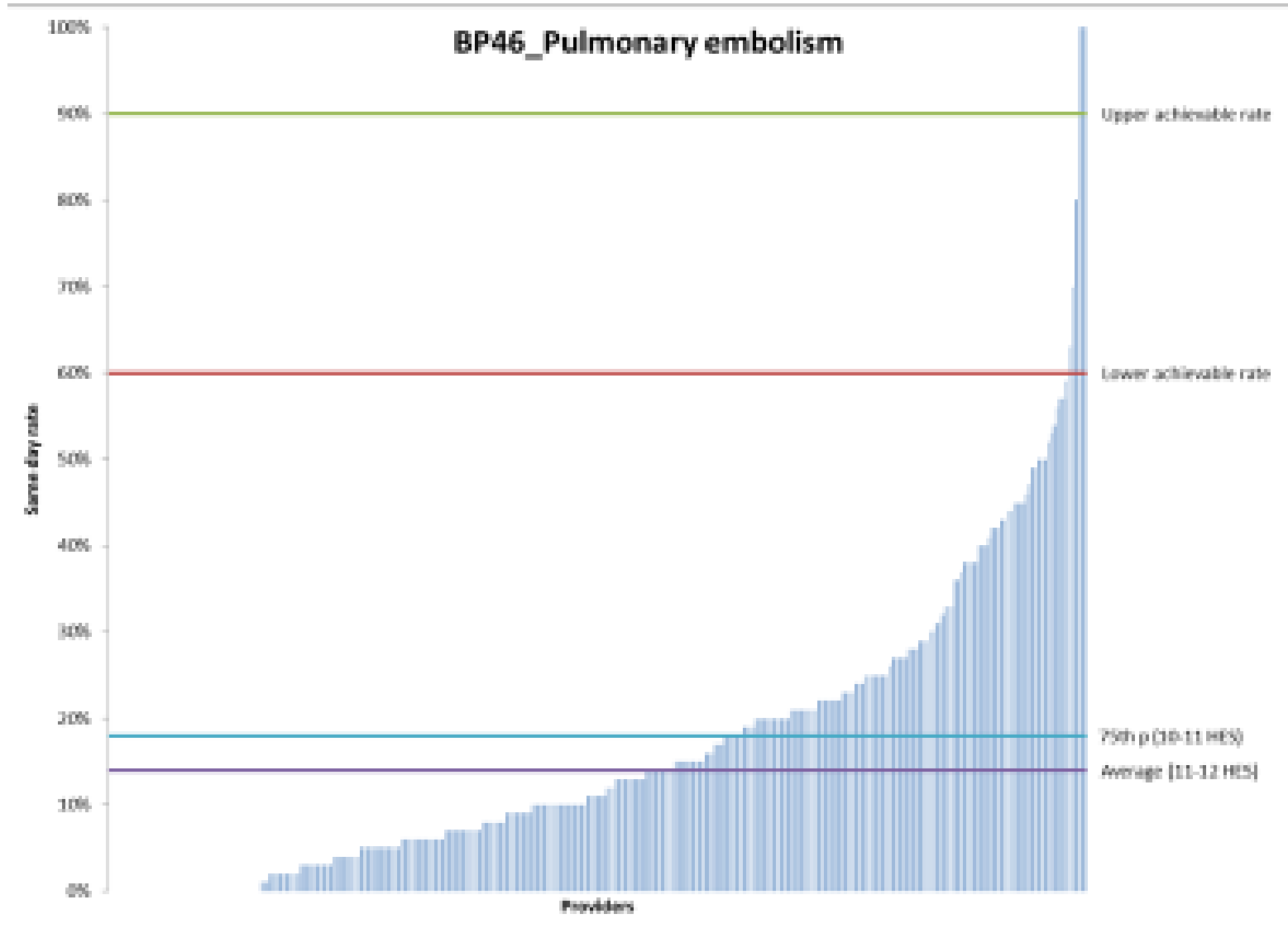
A 3 part non-linear payment model for U&E care

Fixed fee – the cost of running the service 24/7 taking into account current volumes and casemix

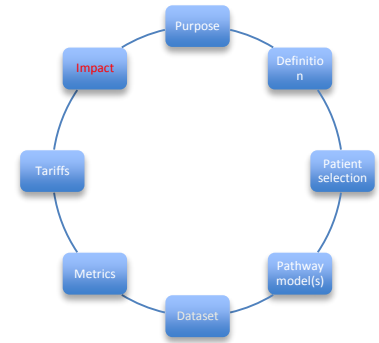
Increased activity fee – a proportional uplift to reflect increased activity paid at a rate that recognizes costs increase in a stepwise manner (e.g. wte) whereas patient numbers do not

Quality/Incentive payment – to promote best practice e.g. front door senior decision making to reduce admission rates and LoS

The (R)evolution of Suspected PE Management – There is still enormous potential



Impact per month



30% = 161100

(900 per hospital)

Total = 537,016

(non-elective admissions in
Dec 2017)

