Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) Emergency Medicine (EM) – Progress Update and Data Collection 2017/18

Introduction
The purpose of the GIRFT EM project is to ensure we understand more about the pressures on emergency departments than can be gleaned from process targets alone (e.g. the 4 hour standard) and identify any clinical or unwarranted variation in your EM Service.

To this end, data has been analysed to develop metrics covering four domains: Demand; Capacity; Flow; and Outcomes. Much work has been done to identify and create new EM specific metrics relevant to both staff and patients. Moreover, each Trust report identifies specific context issues which ensure comparisons are not blind to individual circumstances.

In January 2018, many of you kindly submitted your 2016/17 data to NHSI. We are extremely grateful to everyone as we now have a comprehensive baseline covering quality, workforce, activity, finance, and estate (QWAFE).

After aligning this with your Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data, we have developed an extensive deep dive pack for each Trust. The GIRFT EM Clinical Leads, Dr Cliff Mann (previous President of RCEM) and Dr Chris Moulton (current Vice President of RCEM), are now presenting Trust’s reports to your Executive, senior management and departmental senior team and staff.

The GIRFT EM national report will be published early in 2019 and will provide the first comprehensive overview of emergency departments in England. Insights gained from both the data and site visits will inform future health policy including funding and resource allocation. It is likely to be a signal report and so the value of the data submitted by each department and trust is considerable.

2017/18 – Data collection
Following the success of last year’s data collection, NHSI’s GIRFT EM team is once again partnering with the NHS Benchmarking Network (NHSBN) to collect 2017/18 data. This is to ensure consistency of data collections, capture trends over time and avoid duplication of effort by Trusts.

This approach has been endorsed by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine.

For NHSBN members, your Trust will have been contacted regarding the 2017/18 collection. As before, NHSI is asking for your consent to share your data. For non-NHSBN members, we are writing to CEOs and Medical Directors asking Trusts to complete the on-line data collection template.

We will then align your 2017/18 departmental data with your HES data to update the deep-dive reports which we will issue to all trusts. NHSBN Members will also receive an enhanced bespoke benchmarking report.

The deadline for completing the data submissions is 16th July 2018.

If you have any queries about:
- The data submission, please contact Sue.lkin@nhs.net at NHSBN.
- The GIRFT EM project, please contact the Sector GIRFT Team at NHS Improvement NHSI.GIRFTAnalysts@nhs.net