

GYNAECOLOGY SERVICES

All hospitals in SWSAHS provide general Gynaecology Services with referral to Liverpool Hospital for colposcopy and gynaecological oncology tertiary services. SWSAHS is 78% self-sufficient in the provision of gynaecology services, with the private sector capturing 47% of total demand for inpatient care. In 2002/2003, SWSAHS delivered 5,634 episodes of care, accounting for 10,000 beddays. 60% of these total episodes of care were provided on a day only basis. Most outflows were to Royal Prince Alfred, Auburn and Westmead Hospitals.

The current demand indicates that an infertility service or urogynaecological service is required in SWSAHS as patients are now being referred to other tertiary hospitals outside the Area like Westmead hospital, RPA, RWH, and RNS hospitals for these subspecialty services.

In 2006, at a planned 85% occupancy, assuming no changes in flows that for adult patients there will be a need for approximately 32 beds in SWSAHS hospitals. Demand for public inpatient gynaecological services is projected to remain steady to 2011 however the demand for non-inpatient public clinics in SWS continues to grow.

Current Services

Gynaecology services are mainly provided by obstetrician/gynaecology staff although there are a medical staff appointed to specifically provide gynaecology services.

Bankstown Hospital

In 2002/03, there were 891 separations; average LOS was 1.7 days (2.6 days excluding day only). At 95% occupancy this is equivalent to 5 beds.

Fairfield Hospital

In 2002/03, there were 917 separations; average LOS was 2.1 days (3 days excluding day only).

Liverpool Hospital

Liverpool Hospital is the tertiary referral service for gynaecological services in SWSAHS and offers a colposcopy clinic and a gynaecological oncology clinic weekly in addition to three general gynaecological clinics. The only subspecialty service provided at Liverpool Hospital is gynaecological oncology, which was a recommendation of the Greater Metropolitan Transition Taskforce (GMTT). This service is networked with RPA Hospital. Post surgical patients are managed in 14 beds in the Maternity Unit (Caroline Chisholm Centre). These beds will be required to manage increased referrals of moderate to high risk women birthing in SWSAHS.

In 2002/03, there were 1,817 separations; average LOS was 2 days (3.3 days excluding day only). At 95% occupancy this is equivalent to 11 beds.

Campbelltown Hospital

In 2002/03, there were 754 separations; average LOS was 2.1 days (2.7 days excluding day only). At 95% occupancy this is equivalent to 5 beds.

Camden Hospital

In 2002/03, there were 869 separations; average LOS was 1.0 days (1.0 days excluding day only). At 95% occupancy this is equivalent to 3 beds

Bowral Hospital

In 2002/03, there were 386 separations; average LOS was 1.1 days (1.8 days excluding day only). At 95% occupancy this is equivalent to 1 bed.

Research and Teaching

In response to the growing public demand for access to Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), the Chinese Medicine Clinical Research Centre will be established within the Division of Women's and Child Health at Liverpool Health Service. The Centre will focus on clinical research and education in TCM gynaecology. The vision of the Centre is to be an international centre of excellence in the exploration of the use of Chinese medicine and its integration, where appropriate, with modern medicine.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- An Area gynaecology service be established.
- SWSAHS continue to offer a comprehensive Gynaecological Oncology program primarily based at Liverpool. The surgical component of comprehensive cancer care be networked across the Area, provided post surgical emotional support can be also provided.
- Bankstown Hospital should be considered as a site for this development.
- General Gynaecology be enhanced at Fairfield and Campbelltown Hospitals to include menopause and endoscopic and minimally invasive gynaecology.
- Camden Hospital provide day surgical services.