Original research

Non elective re-admissions to an acute hospital in people with diabetes: Causes and the potential for avoidance. The WICKED project

Syed M.R. Gillani a,b,∗, Umaira Aziz b, David Blundell b, Baldev M. Singh b

a Lea Road Medical Practice, Wolverhampton, UK
b Diabetes Centre, New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, UK

1. Introduction

There were 5.3 million emergency admissions in 2012–2013, an increase of 1.8 per cent over 2011–2012 [1]. Not least because of the huge financial implications [2], reducing non-elective admissions (NEA) is a high priority for the National Health Service reflected in the introduction of a Directly Enhanced Service into primary care [3]. The problem is complex and multifactorial with age [1], multi-morbidity [4,5], ethnicity [6–8], social deprivation [9,10], environmental factors [11–13] and geographical variations [14,15] all known to be important factors at play, equally so in NEA in diabetes [16].

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* Corresponding author at: Diabetes Centre, New Cross Hospital, Wednesfield Road, West Mids, Wolverhampton WV10 0QP, UK.
Tel.: +441902695313; fax: +44 1902695628.
E-mail address: Syed.gillani@nhs.net (S.M.R. Gillani).

* Corresponding author at: Diabetes Centre, New Cross Hospital, Wednesfield Road, West Mids, Wolverhampton WV10 0QP, UK.
Tel.: +441902695313; fax: +44 1902695628.
E-mail address: Syed.gillani@nhs.net (S.M.R. Gillani).