National Psychiatric In-patient Reporting System (NPIRS)

HRB Health Research Board

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Introduction

This bulletin is a synopsis of data for CHO 8 from the NPIRS for 2016 and that reported in *Activities of Irish Psychiatric Units and Hospitals 2016 Main Findings* (Daly and Craig 2017). The address from which a person was admitted was used to assign him/her to a CHO area and, thus, CHO area refers to the CHO area of residence of admissions. CHO 8 covers the counties of Laois, Offaly, Longford, Westmeath, Louth and Meath.

The rates reported below were calculated using the Census of Population 2011 (Central Statistics Office 2012) and all rates are per 100,000 total population. It was not possible to calculate rates for socio-economic groups for each of the CHO areas and, thus, proportions are presented for socio-economic group.

All and first admissions

There were 2,062 admissions for CHO 8 in 2016, a rate of 349.8 per 100,000, the lowest rate amongst all areas (Table 1). Admissions for CHO 8 accounted for 12% of all admissions to psychiatric units and hospitals in 2016. There were 866 first admissions, a rate of 146.9 per 100,000, the highest rate amongst all areas. Re-admissions (1,196) accounted for 58% of all admissions, representing a rate of 202.9 per 100,000.

Gender and age

There was an equal proportion of male and female admissions. Males had a slightly higher rate of all admissions than females, at 351.2 per 100,000 for males and 348.4 for females. (Table 1) Similarly, males had a higher rate of first admissions than females, at 154.4 compared with 139.5 for females.

Table 1: CHOs. All and first admissions. Gender. Ireland 2016. Rates per 100,000 total population

	All			First		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
CHO 1	381.1	358.7	369.9	128.7	92.6	110.7
CHO 2	385.6	324.0	354.8	159.5	120.3	139.9
CHO 3	335.7	372.4	354.0	117.7	111.7	114.7
CHO 4	383.2	359.4	371.2	146.3	118.1	132.1
CHO 5	407.5	330.8	369.0	166.8	118.5	142.5
CHO 6	372.3	394.8	383.9	104.6	102.9	103.7
CHO 7	371.0	425.2	398.5	136.3	143.9	140.2
CHO 8	351.2	348.4	349.8	154.4	139.5	146.9
CHO 9	411.0	415.1	413.1	150.6	124.4	137.2
Total	**380.0**	**373.7**	**376.8**	**143.6**	**122.4**	**132.9**

The 65–74 year age group had the highest rate of all admissions for CHO 8, at 584.4 per 100,000, followed by the 18–19 year age group, at 573.3, and the 75 year and over age group, at 552.3. The 25–34 year age group had the lowest rate of all admissions, at 397.6 per 100,000.

The 18–19 year and over age group had the highest rate of first admissions in CHO 8, at 327.6 per 100,000, followed by the 75 year and over age group, at 281.9, and the 20–24 year age group, at 269.7. The 25–34 year age group had the lowest rate of first admissions, at 170.5.

Age groups were condensed into two groups: under 45 years and 45 years and over. The 45 year and over age group had the highest rate of admissions in all CHO areas, with rates ranging from 642.6 per 100,000 in CHO 7 to 431.2 in CHO 2 (Figure 1). The 45 year and over group had a rate of 538.1 in CHO 8 and under 45 year age group had a rate of 259.3. The rate of admission for the 45 year and over group in CHO 6 (574.4), CHO 7 (642.6) and CHO 8 (531.8) was over twice that of the under 45 year group for those areas.

Marital status
Single persons accounted for over half of all (52%) and 51% of first admissions for CHO 8; married persons accounted for 30% of all and 32% of first admissions; widowed persons accounted for 5% of all and 5% of first admissions; and divorced persons accounted for 5% of all and 3% of first admissions.
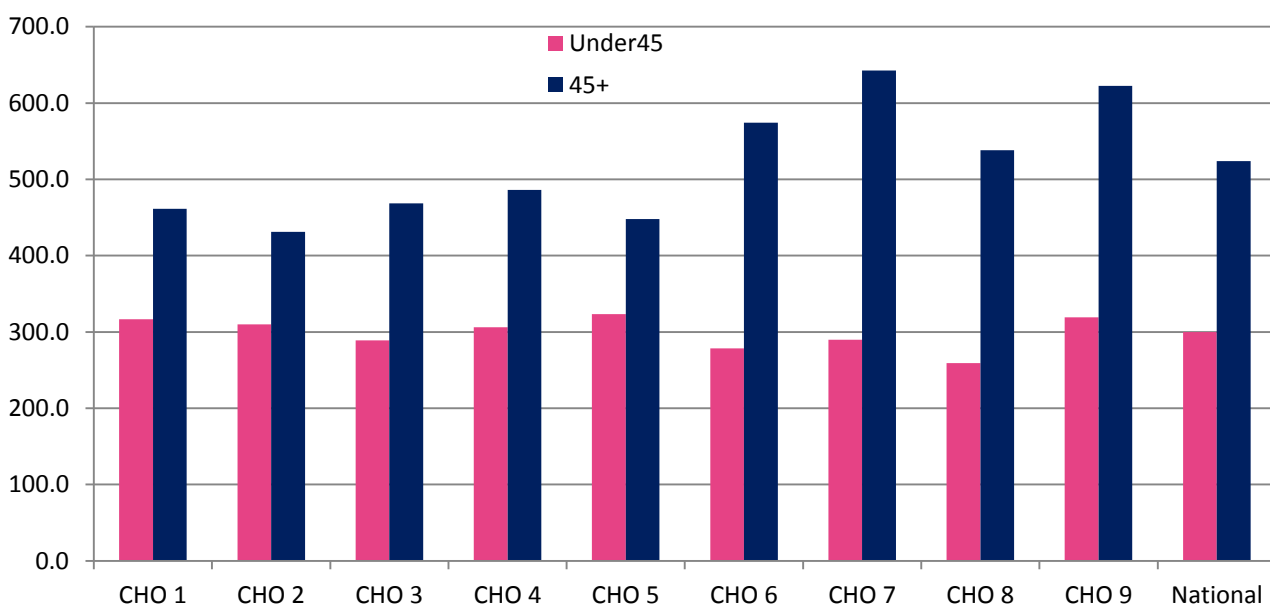
Socio-economic group
Thirteen per cent of all admissions had non-manual occupations, 7% were lower professional, and 6% were manual skilled. However, it is worth noting that over half (57%) of returns for CHO 8 did not specify an occupation, making assignment to a socio-economic group impossible. Proportions for first admissions were somewhat similar.

Diagnosis
Depressive disorders accounted for 26% of all admissions and 28% of first admissions for CHO 8; schizophrenia accounted for almost 20% of all and 15% of first admissions; and neuroses accounted for almost 11% of all and 14% of first admissions.

All and first admission rates in CHO 8 were highest for depressive disorders, at 92.1 (Figure 2) and 32.9 per 100,000, respectively. Schizophrenia had the second-highest rate of all admissions in CHO 8, at 68.4, followed by neuroses, at 39.7 and mania, at 36.1. Schizophrenia had the second-highest rate of first admissions in CHO 8, at 21.5 per 100,000, followed by neuroses, at 20.5.

Figure 1: All admissions by age category by CHO area. Ireland 2016. Rates per 100,000 total population

Legal status

Involuntary admissions accounted for 10% of all and 11% of first admissions for CHO 8. The rate of all involuntary admissions in CHO 8 was 36.5, the second-lowest amongst all CHO areas, while that for first admissions was 16.6 per 100,000, the third-lowest rate for first admissions along with CHO 3 (Figure 3).

Hospital type

Forty-seven per cent of all admissions for CHO 8 were to general hospital psychiatric units, 28% were to psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units and almost 25% were to independent/private and private charitable centres.

Discharges

There were 2,090 discharges (2,070 discharges and 20 deaths) for CHO 8 in 2016. Thirty-two per cent of discharges occurred within one week of admission, 17% occurred within one to two weeks and 20% occurred within two to four weeks of admission. Almost 95% of discharges occurred within three months of admission. This is similar to the pattern observed nationally.

Discharges for CHO 8 accounted for 12% of all discharges and 11% of all in-patient days. The average length of stay for all discharges for CHO 8 was 54.1 days (median 14 days) (Figure 4). This compares with the national average of 57.7 days (median 15 days).

When discharges with a length of stay of one year or more were excluded, discharges for CHO 8 accounted for 12% of discharges and 12% of in-patient days. The average length of stay for discharges, excluding those with a length of stay of one year or more, was 26.0 days (median 14 days).

References

Central Statistics Office (2012) Census of Population 2011, www.cso.ie.

Daly A and Craig S (2017) *Activities of Irish Psychiatric Units and Hospitals 2016*. HRB Statistics Series 35. Dublin: Health Research Board.

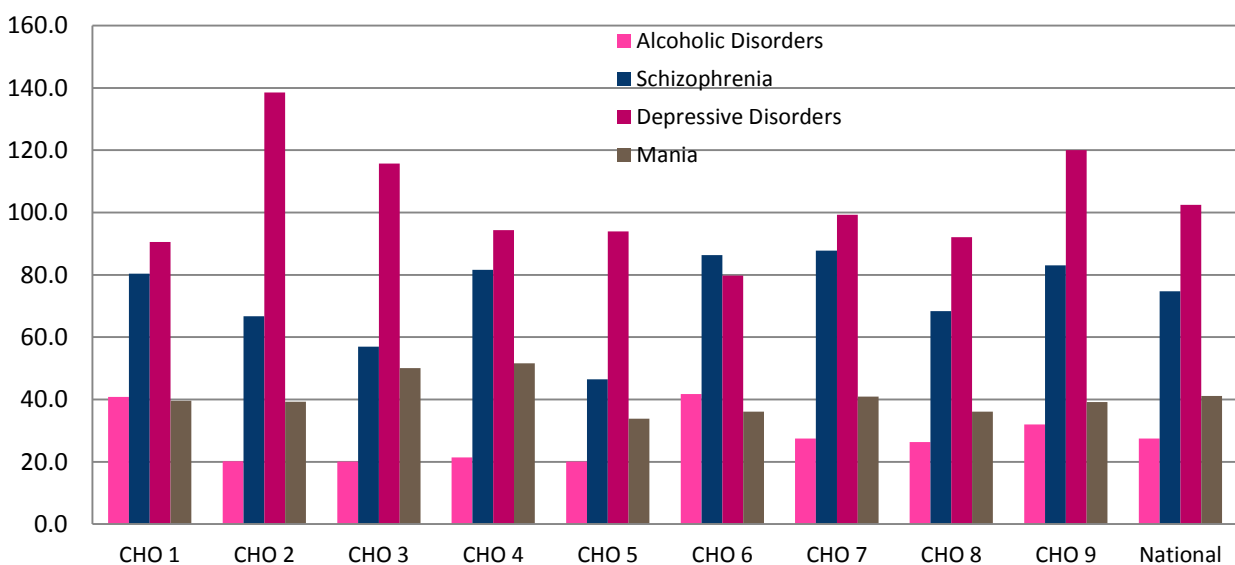**Figure 2: Admissions for selected diagnostic groups by CHO area. Ireland 2016. Rates per 100,000 total population**

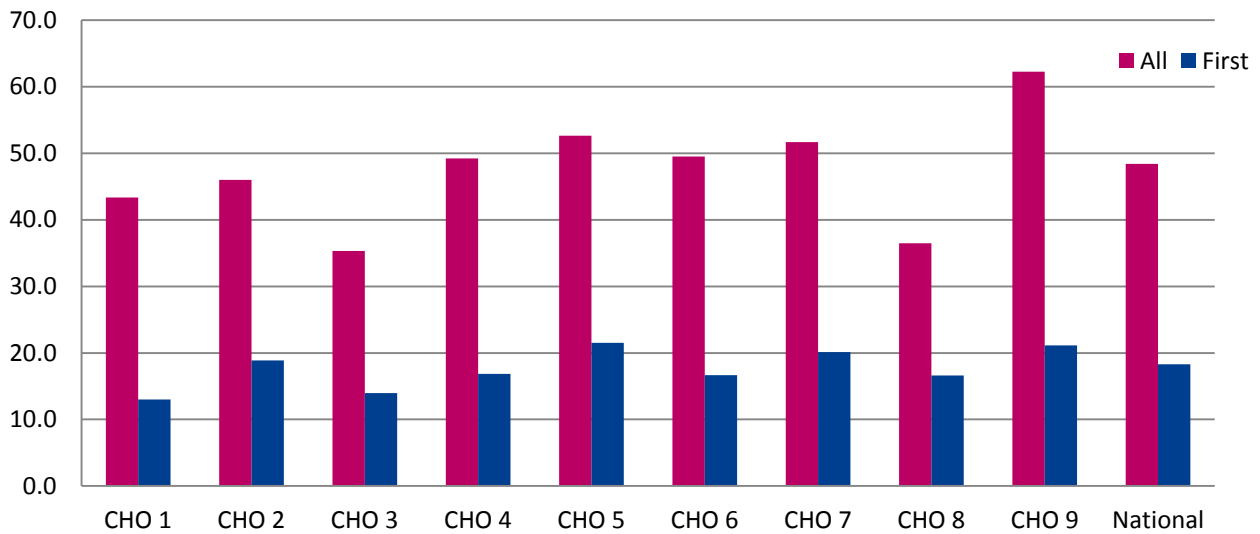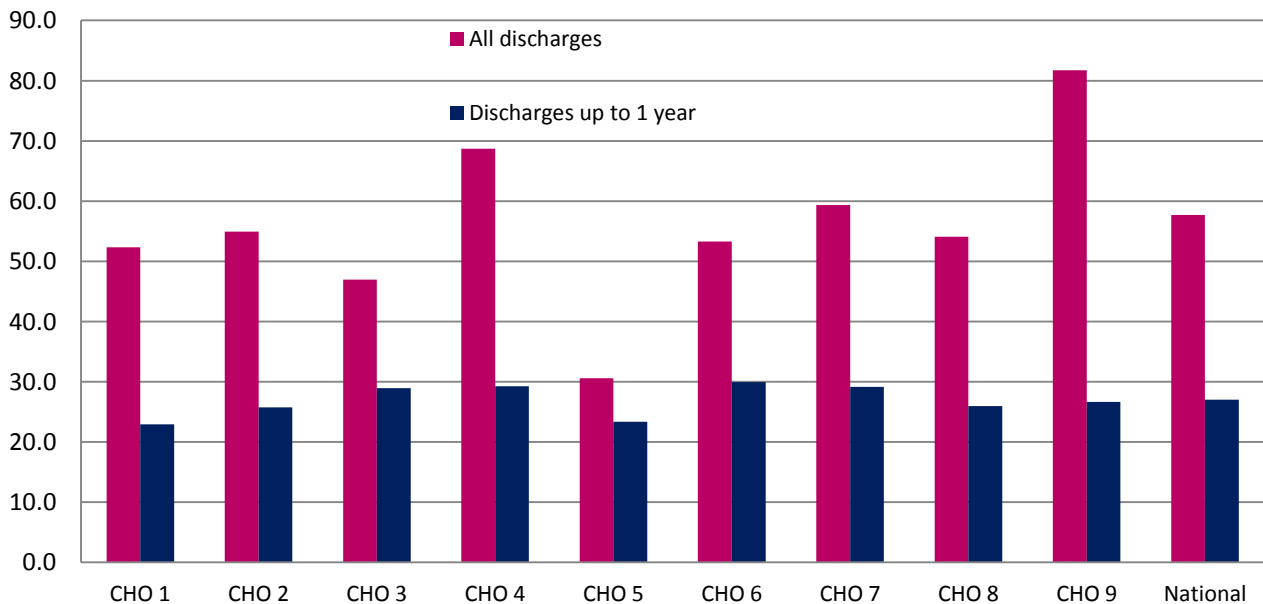**Figure 3: All and first involuntary admissions by CHO area. Ireland 2016. Rates per 100,000 total population**

Figure 4: Average length of stay (days) for all discharges and discharges up to 1 year by CHO area. Ireland 2016.