

## Supplementary material

### Appendix 1: Survey of unit structure and staffing numbers.

#### *The acute medical unit (AMU)*

How many AMU beds are there on your unit?			
Please describe the configuration of your AMU as concisely as possible, listing bed numbers. Please state if your unit includes surgical admissions/short stay/CDU beds, or similar			
How many beds were used to provide level 2 care during the 24-hour period of data collection? (This may include provision of CPAP/NIV/inotropes/vasopressors/CVP measurement/arterial BP monitoring)			
How many patients were on the Liverpool Care Pathway during the 24-hour period of data collection? (Please include those already on and newly commenced on the Pathway)			
Do you provide ambulatory care?		Yes	No
Where do you provide ambulatory care?	Within the AMU bed base (ie beds may be used for admissions if sufficient bed pressures)		
	In a completely ring-fenced area either within AMU or located nearby		
	Other (please describe)		

#### *Doctors 'on-call'*

How many consultants were responsible for acute medical admissions during the whole 24 hours? (Please do not include other consultants on the AMU not required to review acute admission. Please do not include specialty consultants on separate on-call rotas)	
At what time did the last on-call consultant leave the hospital to the nearest hour?	
How many SpR grade doctors were responsible for acute medical admissions during the whole 24 hours? (Please do not include other SpRs on the AMU not required to review acute admissions)	
How many SpR grade doctors were available on site for acute medical admissions during the night at 02:00? (Please include 'ward cover' SpRs if they can be called to see general acute admissions. Do not include specialty registrars, eg gastroenterology registrars covering a gastrointestinal bleed rota)	
How many SHO grade doctors (FY2/CT1/CT2/trust grade) were responsible for acute medical admissions during the whole 24 hours? (Please do not include other SHOs on the AMU not required to review acute admissions)	
How many SHO grade doctors were available on site for acute medical admissions during the night at 02:00?	
How many FY1 doctors were responsible for acute medical admissions during the whole 24 hours? (Please do not include other FY1s on the AMU not required to review acute admissions)	

#### *AMU doctors not on-call*

Many AMUs will have a team, or many teams, of doctors operating on an AMU who are not routinely available or responsible for admitting acute medical patients. These are the doctors we are capturing using the next question.

How many 'not on-call' doctors of each grade were available during the 24 hours on the AMU?	Consultants	
	SpR grade	
	SHO grade	
	FY1	
	Other (please specify)	

*Nurses and healthcare assistants*

How many nursing shifts are there per 24 hours?	2		
	3		
	Other (please specify)		
How many staff were present for the day-time (or early shift if three shifts) and the night shift?		Day/Early	Night
	Band 8		
	Band 7		
	Band 6		
	Band 5		
	Band 4		
	Band 3		
	Band 2		
	Other		

*Allied health professionals*

How many allied health professionals were available during the 24 hours on the AMU?	Pharmacists	
	Physiotherapists	
	Occupational therapists	
	Social workers	
	Other (please specify)	