40 Top performing hospitals named as part of CHKS annual benchmarking report

- Study measures UK hospital performance in three key areas: clinical effectiveness and outcomes, efficiency, and patient-carer experience
- 40 Top hospitals achieve highest performance ratings for five years
- 14 hospitals maintain place in 40 top five years running
- the “most improved hospital trust” is St George’s Hospital in London

CHKS, the leading healthcare benchmarking company, has announced the 40 Top performing hospitals based on indicators within three key areas: clinical effectiveness and outcomes, efficiency and patient-carer experience*. The report is compiled from data collected over 12 months ending December 2004, which represents the most up to date data available to the NHS.

CHKS use the following indicators:

- Risk adjusted mortality
- Rate of emergency readmission to hospital (case mix adjusted)
- Rate of emergency readmission to hospital following treatment for a fractured hip (case mix adjusted)
- Returning home following treatment for stroke (case mix adjusted)
- Returning home following treatment for fractured hip (case mix adjusted)
- Risk adjusted complications
- Day Case conversion rate (case mix adjusted)
- Reported MRSA bacteraemia rate
- Day Case rate for target procedures (case mix adjusted)
- Risk adjusted length of stay
- Healthcare Resource Groups reference costs with market forces factor adjustment
- Missed out-patient appointments (1st visit, specialty adjusted)
- Missed out-patient appointments (Follow-up visit, specialty adjusted)
- Procedures not carried out - hospital decision
- Proportion of surgical treatments provided to patients aged over 65 (case mix adjusted)
- Survey of Outpatients views
- Survey of the views of Accident & Emergency attenders

This year’s report reveals the highest performance levels in the 40 Top hospitals compared with the previous four years. Amongst the best performing hospitals, mortality rates were 7% lower than expected, given the types of patient treated, compared with a figure of 4.6% in 2003. The 40Top Hospitals also achieved a 10% reduction in bed-days against predictions.
Graham Harries, Chief Executive of CHKS commented:

“It is impressive to see that this year’s 40 Top hospitals have achieved the highest performance level of the five years in which we have been undertaking this study. Over this time the indicators have evolved and grown and now present a rounded view of UK Trusts, taking into account performance measurements across all areas and activities from mortality to outpatient treatment.

14 trusts have managed to maintain a place in the 40 top for five years running which is a great achievement. Seven trusts have made it into the 40 top for the first time including St George’s Healthcare NHS Trust in London, which also received the accolade of ‘Most Improved Trust’.”

Notes to Editors

CHKS Ltd provides comparative healthcare information to NHS Trusts and the independent healthcare sector. Our aim is to help healthcare organisations to improve the service they provide to patients, through data analysis, benchmarking and interpretation.

With 15 years’ experience of working solely with the healthcare sector and currently assisting over 120 Acute NHS Trusts, the Independent Sector and Primary Care organisations, CHKS has developed a portfolio of programmes which address key issues facing the clinicians and managers of today’s NHS, while assuring and improving data quality. Our work focuses on clinical governance, performance management, clinician appraisal and service reconfiguration.

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*The study includes data from 120 hospital trusts across the UK. Each indicator has an 'Actual' and 'Expected' figure from which an index is derived. The 'Actual' figure is that obtained from each hospital’s own information. The 'Expected' figure is derived using the overall performance level of the hospital’s peers. Where performance is likely to differ by age, sex and other patient characteristics and by case types e.g. mortality, specific figures have been derived for each combination, and a total 'Expected' figure built up for the hospital that reflects their patient mix.
The UK 40 top hospitals for 2005, in alphabetical order are:

Bedford Hospital NHS Trust
Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust
Bromley Hospitals NHS Trust
Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust
Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Down Lisburn HSS Trust
East Cheshire NHS Trust
Epsom & St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust
Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust
Kingston Hospital NHS Trust
Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Morecambe Bay Hospitals NHS Trust
NHS Tayside - Acute Services Division
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Trust
North Cumbria Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
North East Wales NHS Trust
North Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust
North West Wales NHS Trust
Oxford Radcliffe Hospital NHS Trust
Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Poole Hospital NHS Trust
Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Queens Medical Centre University Hospital NHS Trust
Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust
Royal United Hospital Bath NHS Trust
Royal West Sussex NHS Trust
South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust
South Tyneside Healthcare NHS Trust
Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust
St George’s Healthcare NHS Trust
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust
The Royal Group of Hospitals & Dental Hospital HSS Trust
Ulster Community and Hospitals HSS Trust
West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust
West Suffolk Hospitals NHS Trust
Weston Area Health NHS Trust
York Hospitals NHS Trust