Treatment of Alcohol Related Liver Disease (ARLD) by Acute Trusts in Wessex

A report for Wessex AHSN 'Reducing Harm from Alcohol' Programme

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Key findings in Wessex

Data from the 9 Acute NHS Trusts in Wessex shows:

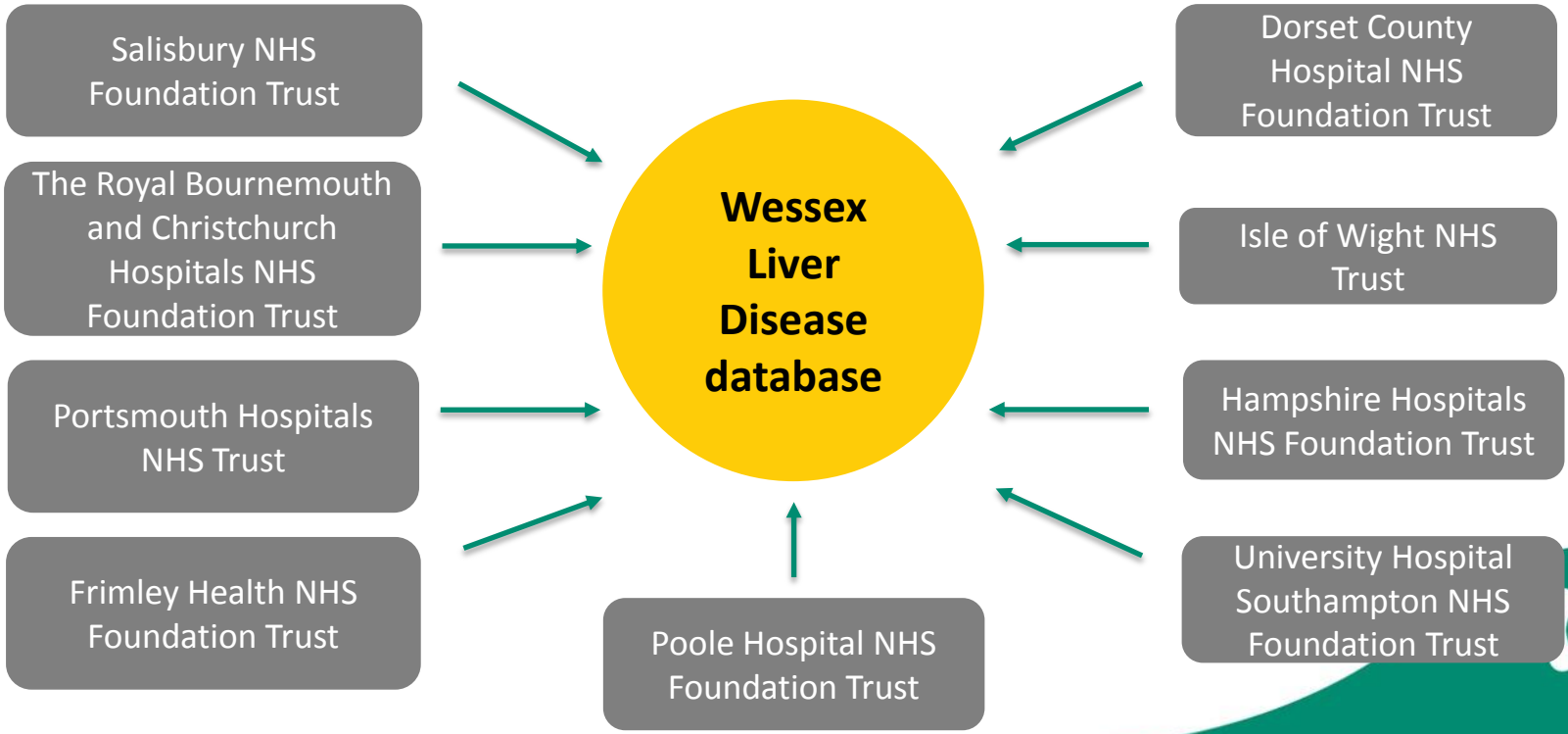
- The number of **Liver Disease admissions** are **increasing** each year
- In 2015: Across Wessex an average of **38% of Liver Disease admissions** were for **alcohol-specific** conditions, this increased to **46%** at one Acute Trust
- **Alcohol Related Liver Disease** (ARLD) **patients** are on average 10 years **younger** and more likely to be **male**
- The **probability of death** for an **ARLD** diagnosed patient 3-years after diagnosis is **47%**, compared with **28%** for a **non-ARLD** patient*
- **ARLD patients** have a **greater number of admissions** and **longer lengths of stay** than other Liver Disease patients
- An **audit** from Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust suggests that at least an additional **13%** of Liver Disease admissions have alcohol use disorders but are not coded as such. Further audits are being completed at other Trusts across Wessex
- It is estimated that **improving patient management** in Acute Trust settings could **save** at least **£12.9m-£17.2m per year**** across the 9 Acute Trusts

* Figures based on Trust recorded data only, hence probability of death may be under-reported here

**Range determined by ARLD diagnosis either 1 or 2 years earlier

Development of regional Wessex acute Liver Disease (LD) database

- 9 Wessex Acute Trusts have contributed admissions data to a regional Wessex database
- The database comprises all LD admissions Jan 2011 - Dec 2015: ~32,500 admission episodes with over 350 data fields for each admission (~11.4 million elements)
- As well as this report there are individual reports available for each Trust/CCG



This data does not include:

- **Any** hospital admission where **Liver Disease** is **not coded** (even if present)
- Any admission occurring outside of the 9 Acute Trusts

ARLD and alcohol-specific admissions are under-estimated where:

- Patients have **not been screened** for alcohol
- Patients **screened but not coded** in Trust electronic records
- Patients where ARLD is obscured by obesity-related Liver Disease

Headline numbers: Wessex (9 Acute Trusts)

- **During Jan 2011 – Dec 2015**:
  - There were **26,900 LD admissions**
  - There were over **12,000 ARLD admissions** (from **5,520 ARLD patients**)
  - **On average** there were **~865 new diagnoses** of **ARLD per year**
  - **40%** of all **LD admissions** had an **alcohol-specific condition** recorded
  - **85%** of all **LD admissions** were **emergency**

Definitions of admissions:
LD: patient with Liver Disease diagnosis
ARLD: patient with Alcohol-Related Liver Disease diagnosis
Alcohol-specific: admission with ARLD or other alcohol diagnosed conditions
For full definitions see Appendix A

- **Between Jan-Dec 2015**:
  - There were **4,860 LD patients**
    - Who had **6,400 admissions**
    - Of which **2,400** were **alcohol-specific admissions**
    - There were **1,620 LD patients** who had at least one admission for an **alcohol-specific** condition
  - Of the LD patients there were **1,340 patients** diagnosed with **ARLD**
    - Who had **2,070 admissions**
    - Using **23,000 bed days**
    - At a PbR cost of over **£5,870,000***

* Cost may be under-reported by up to 10%, as some admissions could not be assigned to a HRG tariff

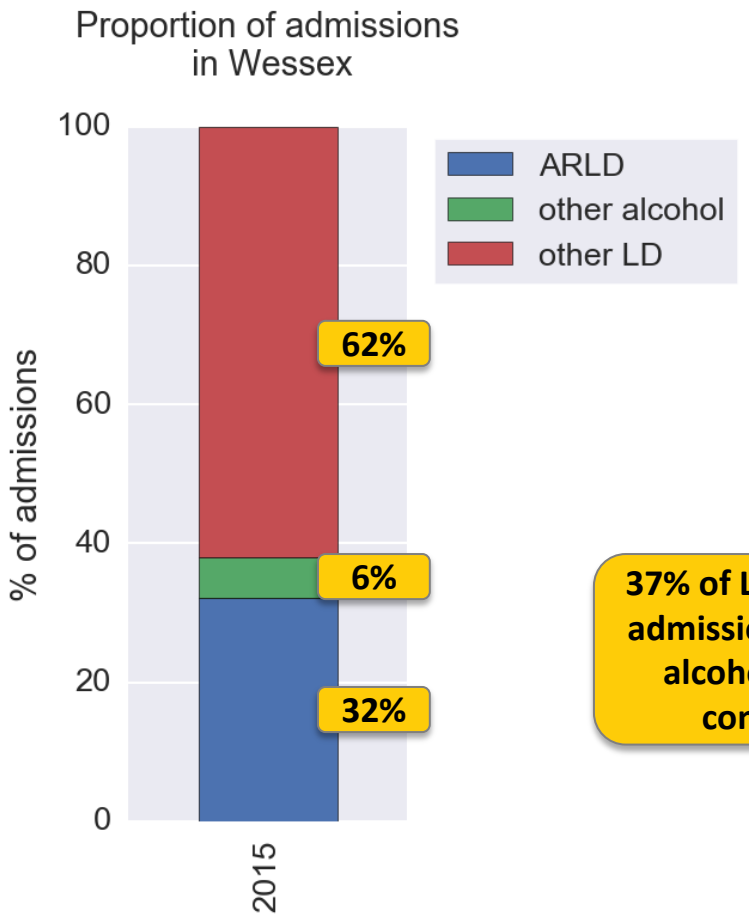
Proportion of Liver Disease admissions ARLD or alcohol-specific in Wessex

Key Narrative

In 2015 in Wessex 38% of LD admissions were coded with an alcohol-specific condition.

In 2015 in Wessex 32% of LD admissions were coded with ARLD.

A HHFT audit suggests that up to an additional 13% of Liver Disease admissions have alcohol use disorders but are not coded as such.



Numbers of Liver Disease admissions in Wessex over time

Key Narrative

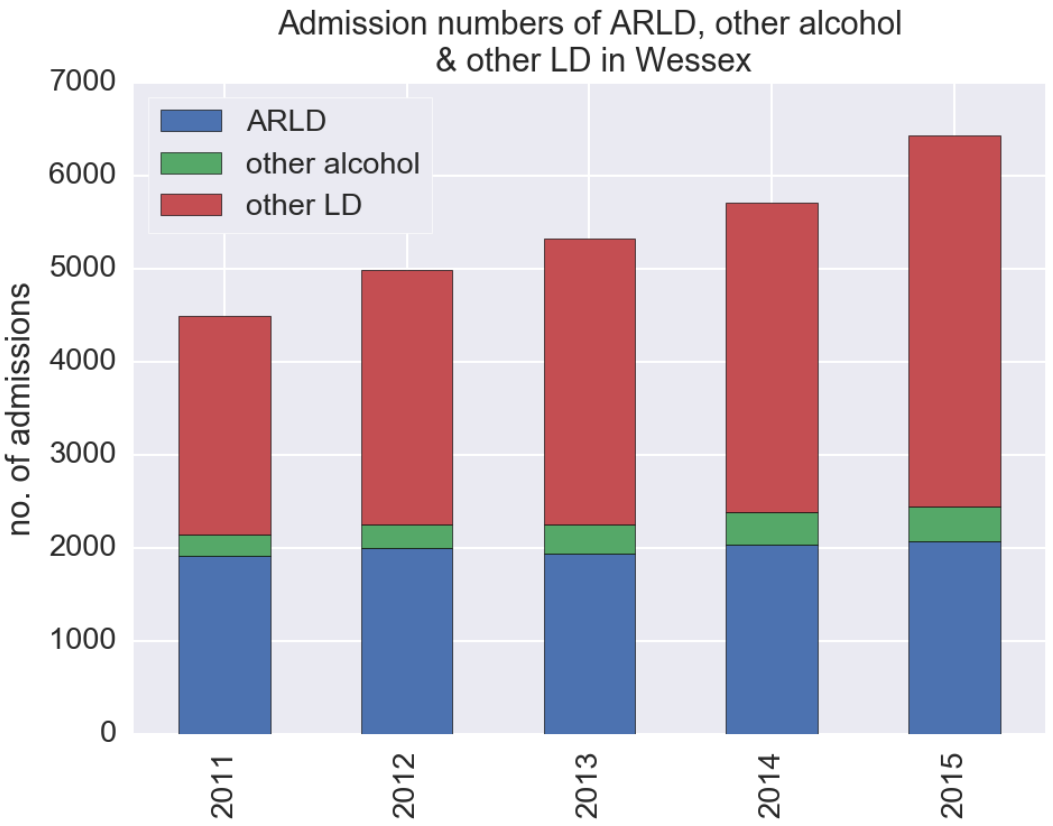
In Wessex there were over 6400 LD admissions in 2015 and the no. of LD admissions have increased over time (43% between 2011-15).

ARLD admissions have slightly increased (8% between 2011-15)

The total no. of alcohol-specific admissions ('ARLD' and 'other alcohol') have increased by 14% between 2011-15.

43% of all LD admissions between 2011-2015 were alcohol-specific.

A HHFT audit suggests that up to an additional 13% of Liver Disease admissions have alcohol use disorders but are not coded as such.



No. of Liver Disease admissions are increasing each year

Alcohol-specific admissions (ARLD and 'other alcohol') have increased by 14% (2011-15)

Admission coding by Liver Disease code in Wessex (final K-code of spell)

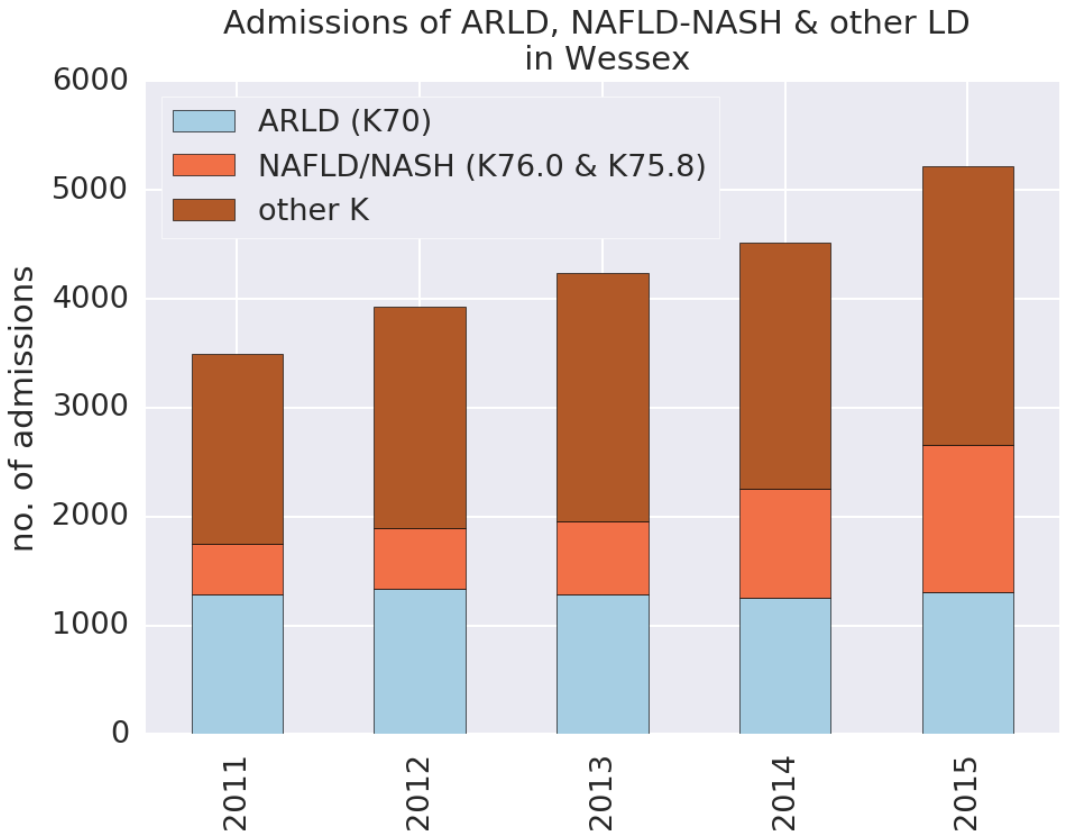
Key Narrative

When considering the final LD diagnosis recorded in the hospital spell:

Between 2011-2015 there has been significant increase (164%) in 'Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease' (NAFLD) and 'Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis' (NASH) diagnosed admissions.

Over this time there has also been an increase of 44% in the number of 'other LD' admissions.

These changes are most likely to be due to the increase in obesity.



The impact of obesity on Liver Disease admissions

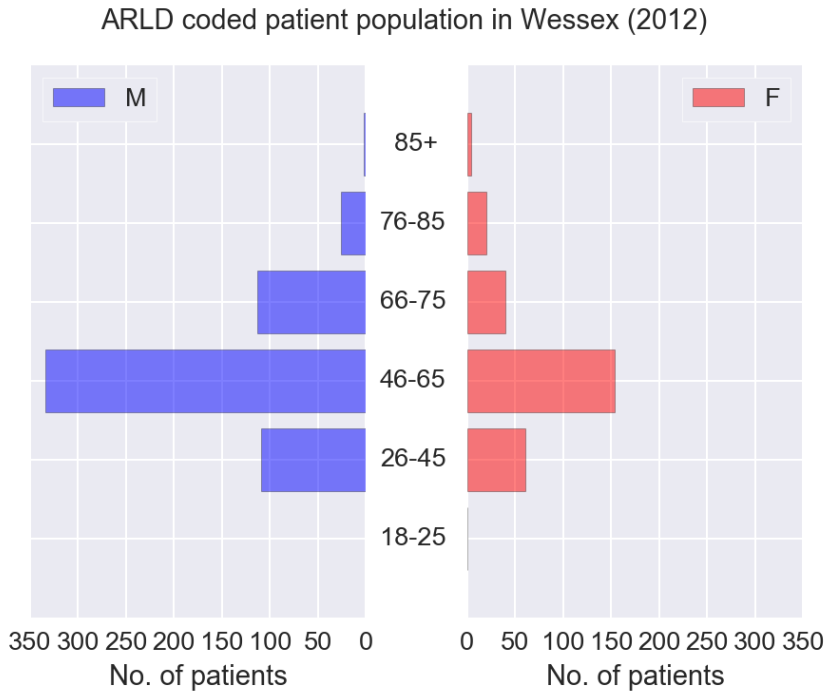
Impact of alcohol on Liver Disease (2012 cohort)

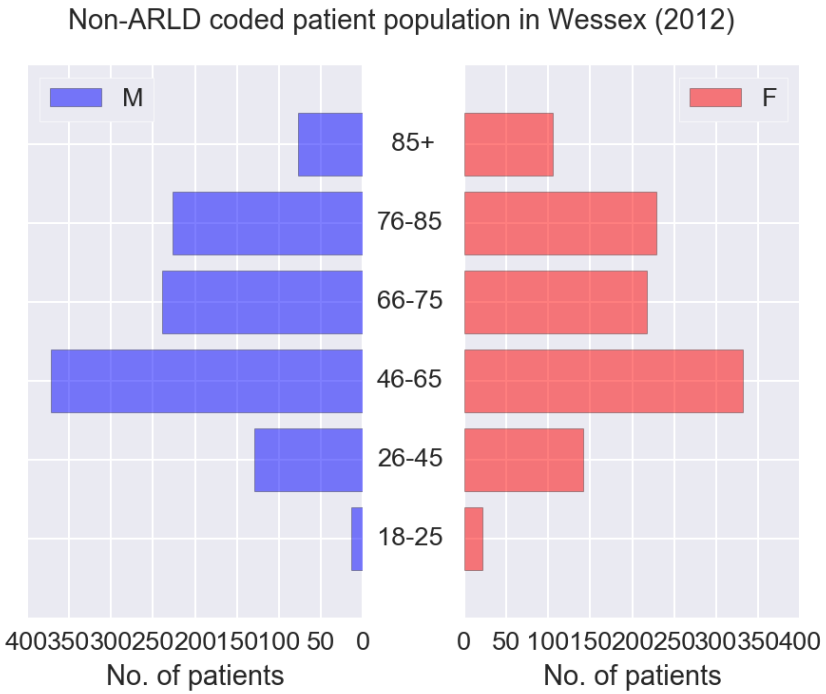
- 2,970 patients were admitted for LD for the first time in 2012
- **Over 4 years (2012-2015)** these patients had:
  - 5,110 Admissions
  - 1,309 Deaths (44% died)
- A comparison of those with an ARLD diagnosis and those without is shown below **over the 4 year period**:

ARLD	Non-ARLD
863 Patients (29% of cohort)	2107 Patients (71% of cohort)
2,282 Admissions (45% of cohort admissions)	2,828 Admissions (55% of cohort admissions)
2.6 Admissions per patient on average (median)	1.3 Admissions per patient on average (median)
428 Deaths (49.6% died)	881 Deaths (42% died)
	6.7% of LD patients not diagnosed with ARLD had at least 1 alcohol-specific admission

ARLD patients have a greater number of admissions on average than other Liver Disease patients

ARLD patient demographics in Wessex (2012 cohort)





ARLD patients are on average younger and more likely to be male

Key Narrative

Patients admitted with an ARLD code are on average younger than those without (median age: 57yrs compared with 67yrs).

Patients admitted with an ARLD code are more likely to be male (68% of ARLD group) that those without (50% male in non-ARLD group).

Liver Disease survival in Wessex: 2012 cohort, ages 46-65 years

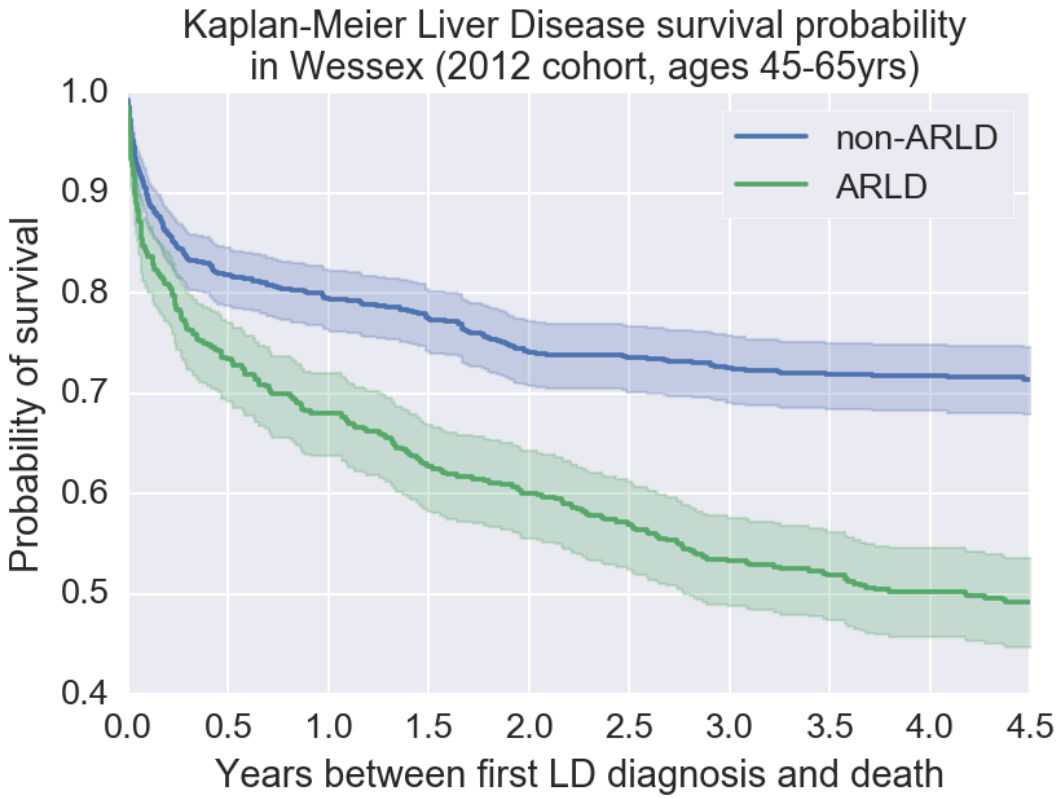
Key Narrative

Based on those admitted for the first time with a LD diagnosis in 2012 (age 45-65):

The probability of a LD patient surviving after first diagnosis (of any LD) in Wessex is much lower for those who have ARLD diagnosed.

Within 4 years of first LD diagnosis the probability of death for an ARLD diagnosed patient is 49%, compared with 28% for a non-ARLD patient.

Note: deaths only include those recorded on Trust data systems.



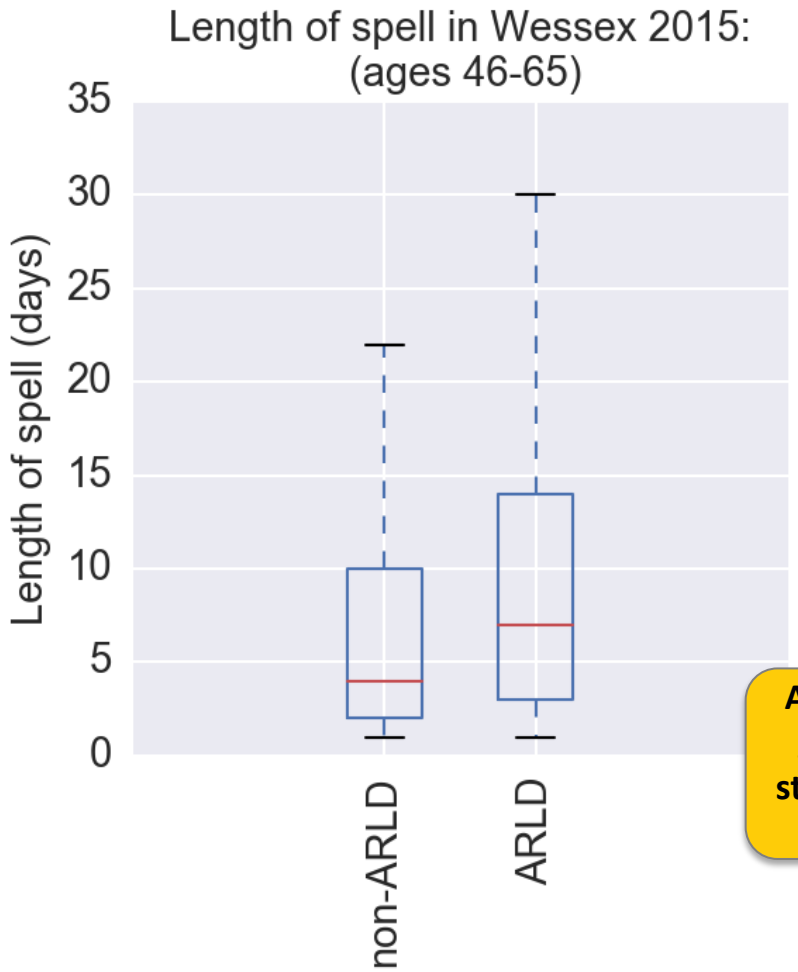
There is increased mortality in patients diagnosed with ARLD

Liver disease Length of Stay in Wessex (46-65 yrs)

Key Narrative

When comparing the most common ARLD age group (46-65yrs) difference in length of stay (LOS) is greater on average by 3 days (7 days rather than 4). Longer LOS are also seen in the 26-45, 66-75 & 76-85yrs age groups.

There are likely to be undiagnosed ARLD patients in the non-ARLD group, hence the difference in LOS may be even greater than that shown here.



ARLD patients have greater lengths of stay than other Liver Disease patients

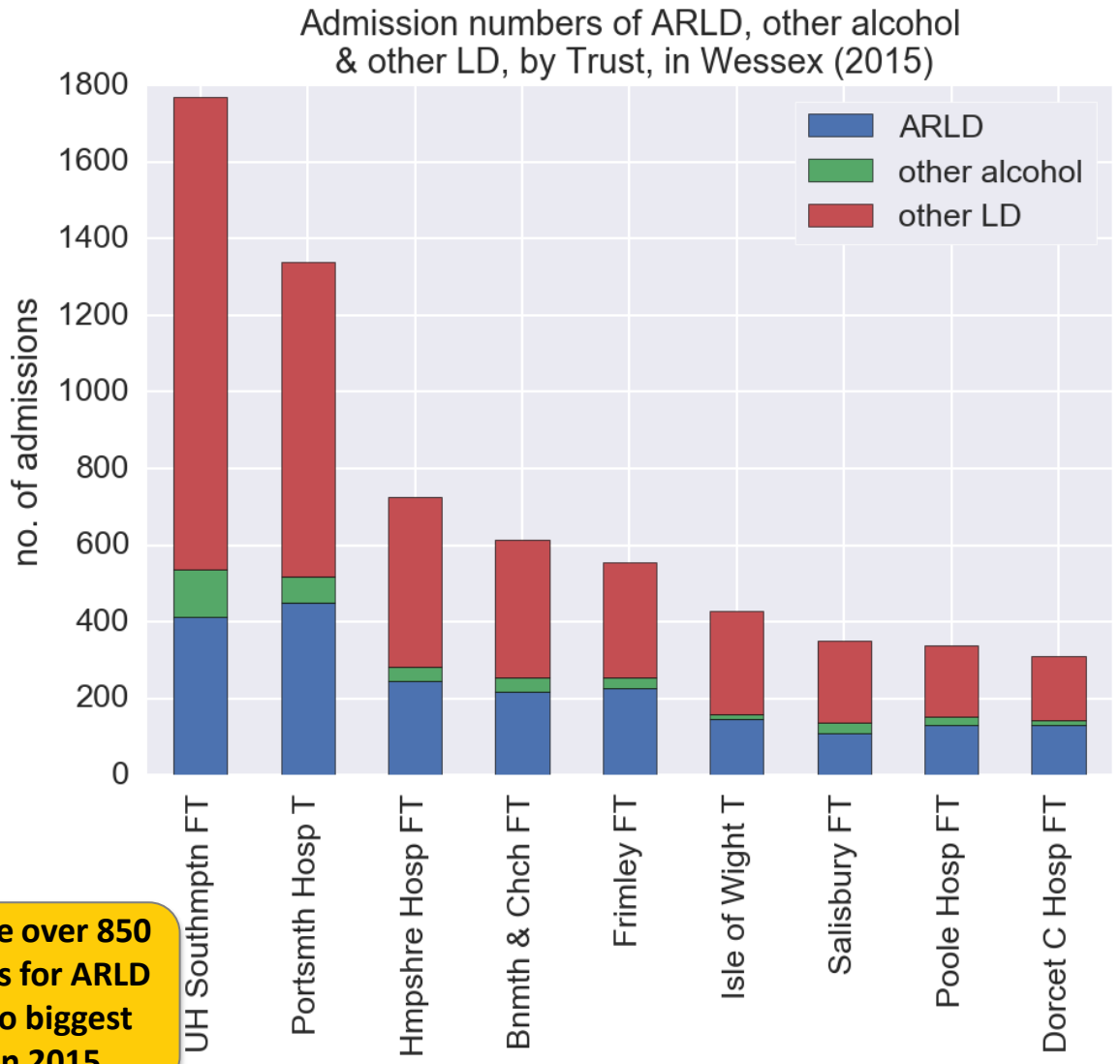
Trust variation: number of Liver Disease admissions at Trusts across Wessex

Key Narrative

Number of admissions varied between Trusts in 2015. There were almost 1,800 LD admissions at University Hospital Southampton FT in 2015.

There were over 850 admissions for ARLD at University Hospital Southampton FT and Portsmouth Hospitals Trust in 2015.

A HHFT audit suggests that up to an additional 13% of LD admissions could be coded with alcohol if correctly written in notes.



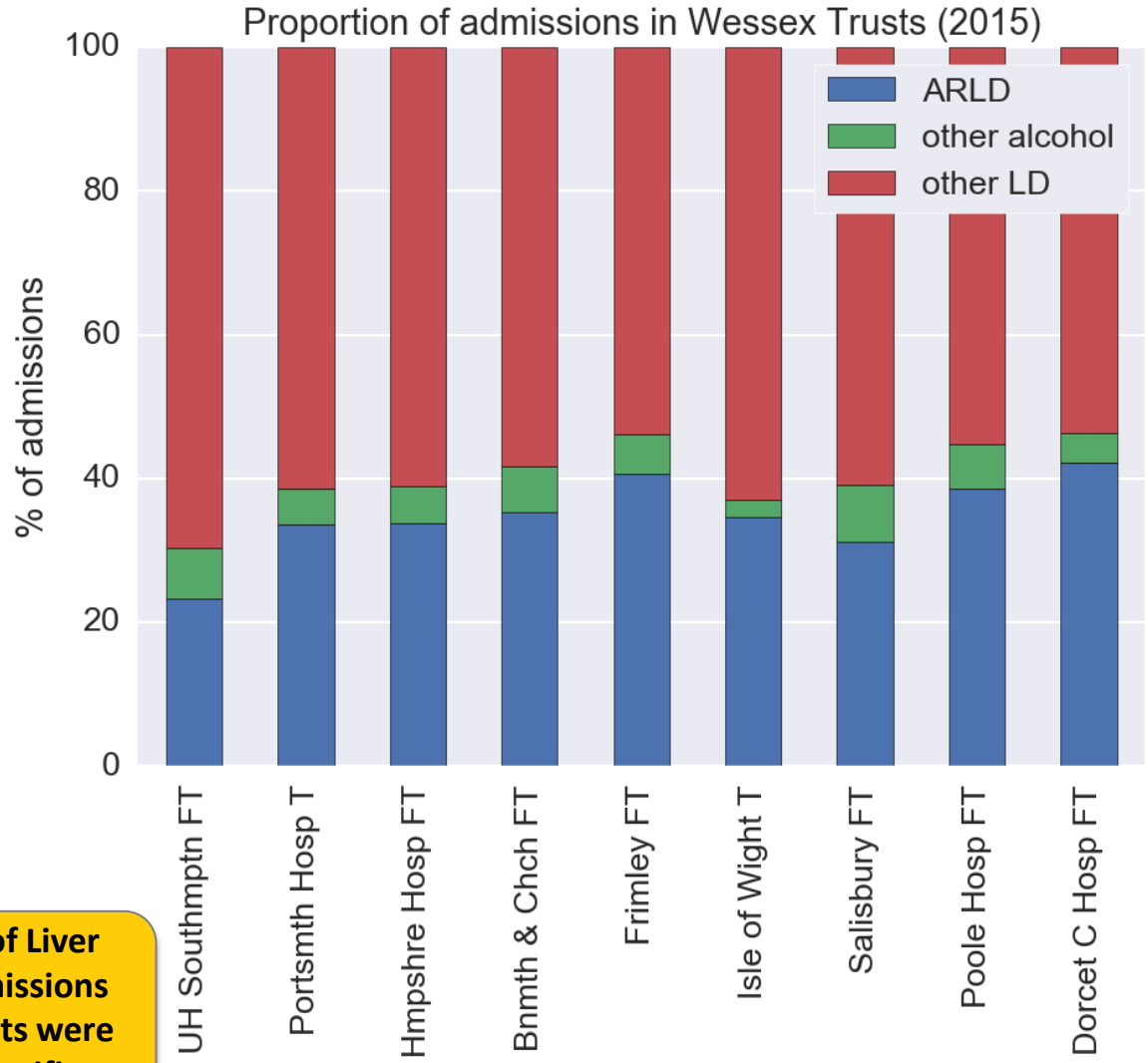
There were over 850 admissions for ARLD at the two biggest Trusts in 2015

Trust variation: % of Liver Disease admissions coded with ARLD/alcohol

Key Narrative

In 2015 the percentage of LD admissions coded with ARLD varied by Trusts between 23-42%.

The percentage of LD admissions coded with alcohol-specific conditions ('ARLD' + 'other alcohol') varied by Trust between 30-46%.



Up to 46% of Liver Disease admissions at some Trusts were alcohol-specific

Trust variation: HRG spend for alcohol Liver Disease admissions across Wessex

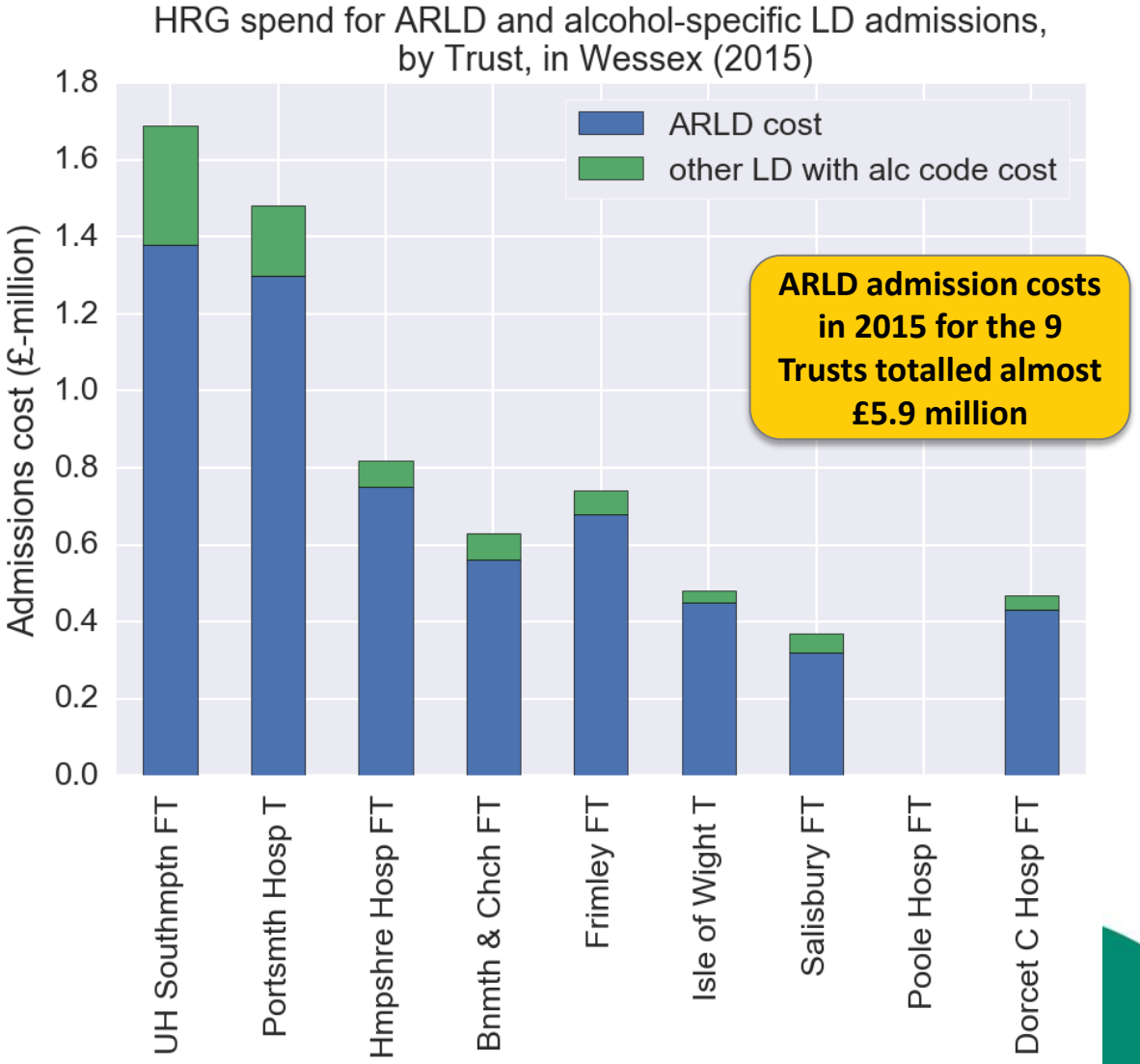
Key Narrative

Cost for each admission were calculated using PbR tariffs.

Note: not all admissions could have a PbR tariff attached. Therefore approximately 10% of admission costs are not accounted for. Poole HFT did not provide HRG data and so no costs are presented.

ARLD admission costs in 2015 for the 9 Trusts totalled almost £5.9 million. The two largest Trusts account for over £2.6 million of this.

The two largest Trusts have a higher proportion of cost associated with LD admissions with alcohol-specific conditions than the other Trusts.



Trust variation: admission breakdown by final Liver Disease diagnosis

Key Narrative

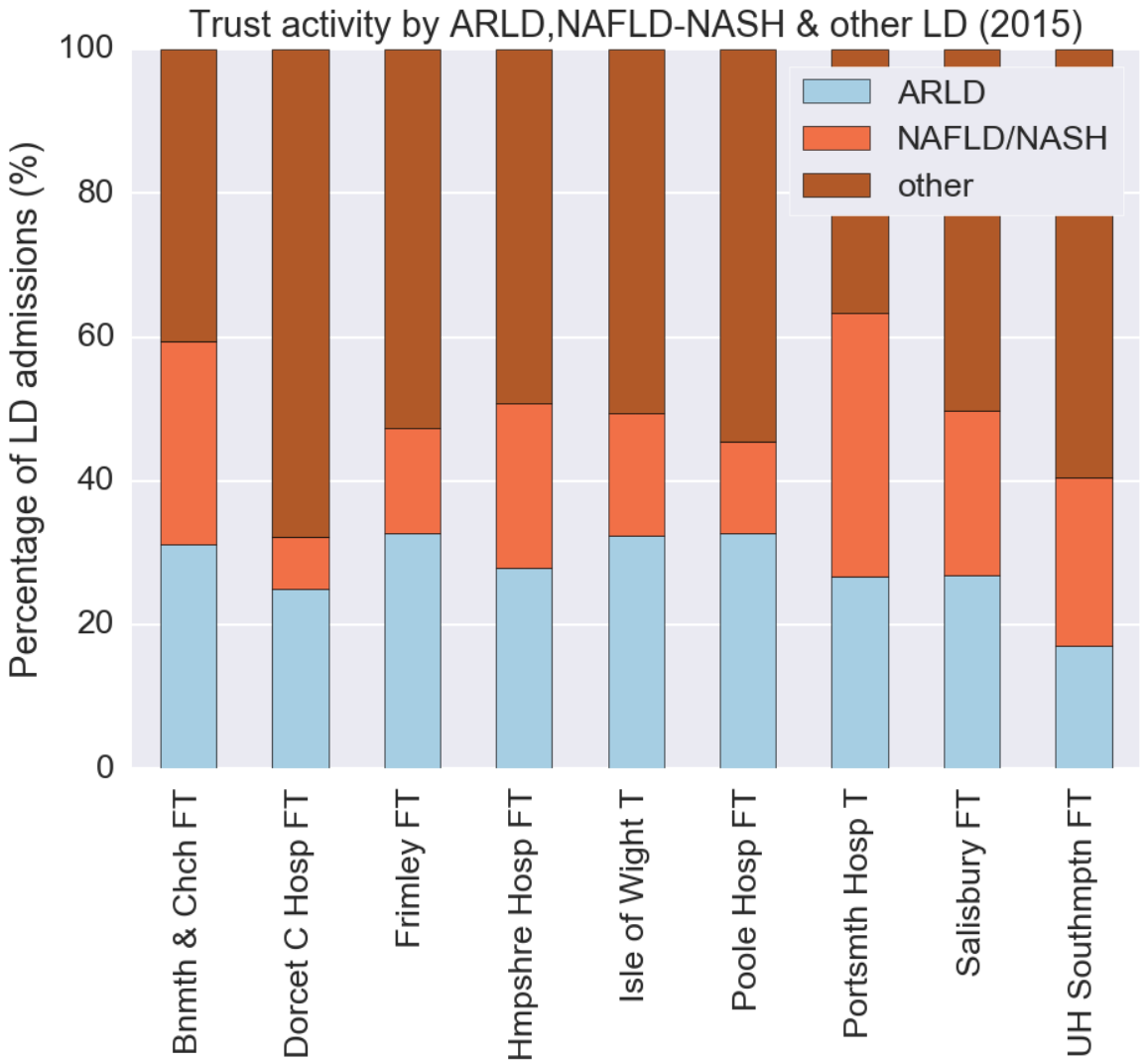
When comparing the last LD diagnosis code of each admission spell in 2015:

The proportion of ARLD diagnoses varied by 17-33% between Trusts.

The proportion of NAFLD/NASH diagnoses varied by 7-37% between Trusts.

Smaller Trusts are observed to have a greater proportion of admissions with a final ARLD diagnosis.

The largest Trust had 60% of LD admissions neither classified as ARLD or NAFLD/NASH.



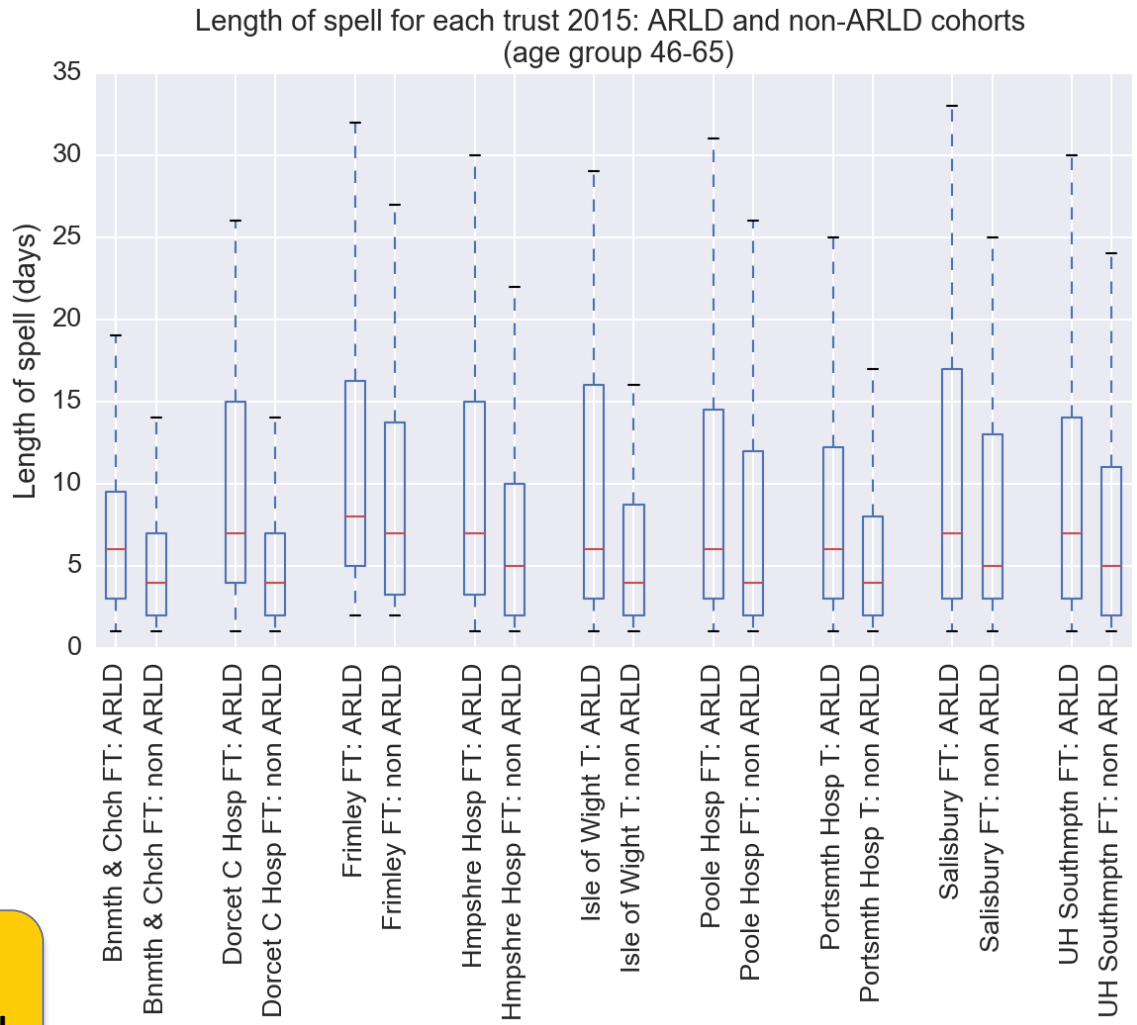
Trust variation: LOS for (ages 46-65yrs)

Key Narrative

There is variation in LOS for both ARLD and non-ARLD groups between Trusts. Median LOS varies between 5-7 days for non-ARLD diagnosed patients and 6-8 days for ARLD diagnosed patients.

Salisbury FT and Frimley FT have the longest LOS in Wessex for ARLD patients.

Bournemouth and Christchurch FT has on average the lowest LOS for both ARLD and non-ARLD groups.



Length of Stay is greater for ARLD admissions across all Trusts in Wessex

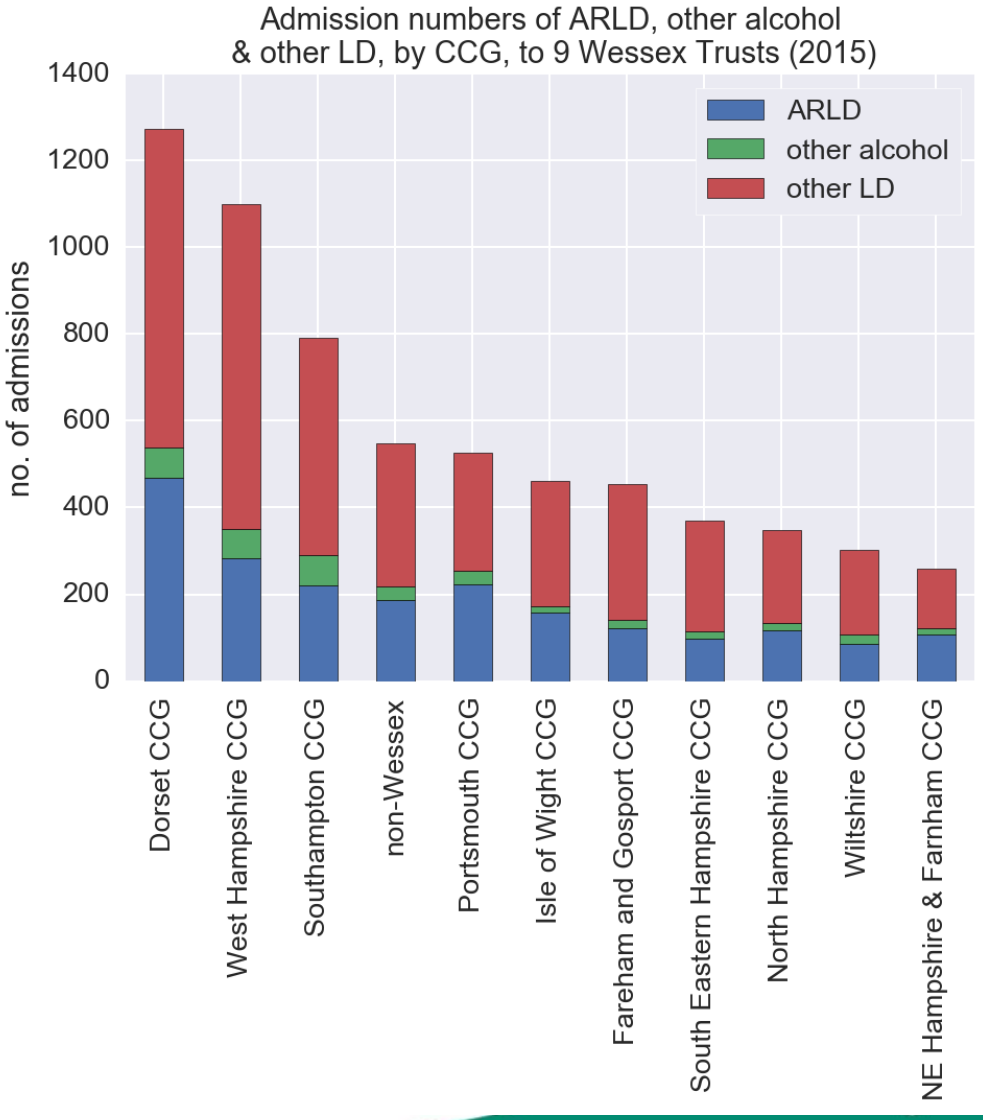
CCG variation: number of Liver Disease admissions from CCGs across Wessex

Key Narrative

Note: CCG data only includes the admissions to the 9 Acute NHS Trusts submitting data.

West Hants, Dorset and Southampton CCGs have the greatest numbers of Liver Disease admissions to the 9 NHS Trusts for which data was collected.

Non-Wessex Liver Disease admissions are relatively high mostly due to patients admitted to NE Hampshire & Farnham CCG.

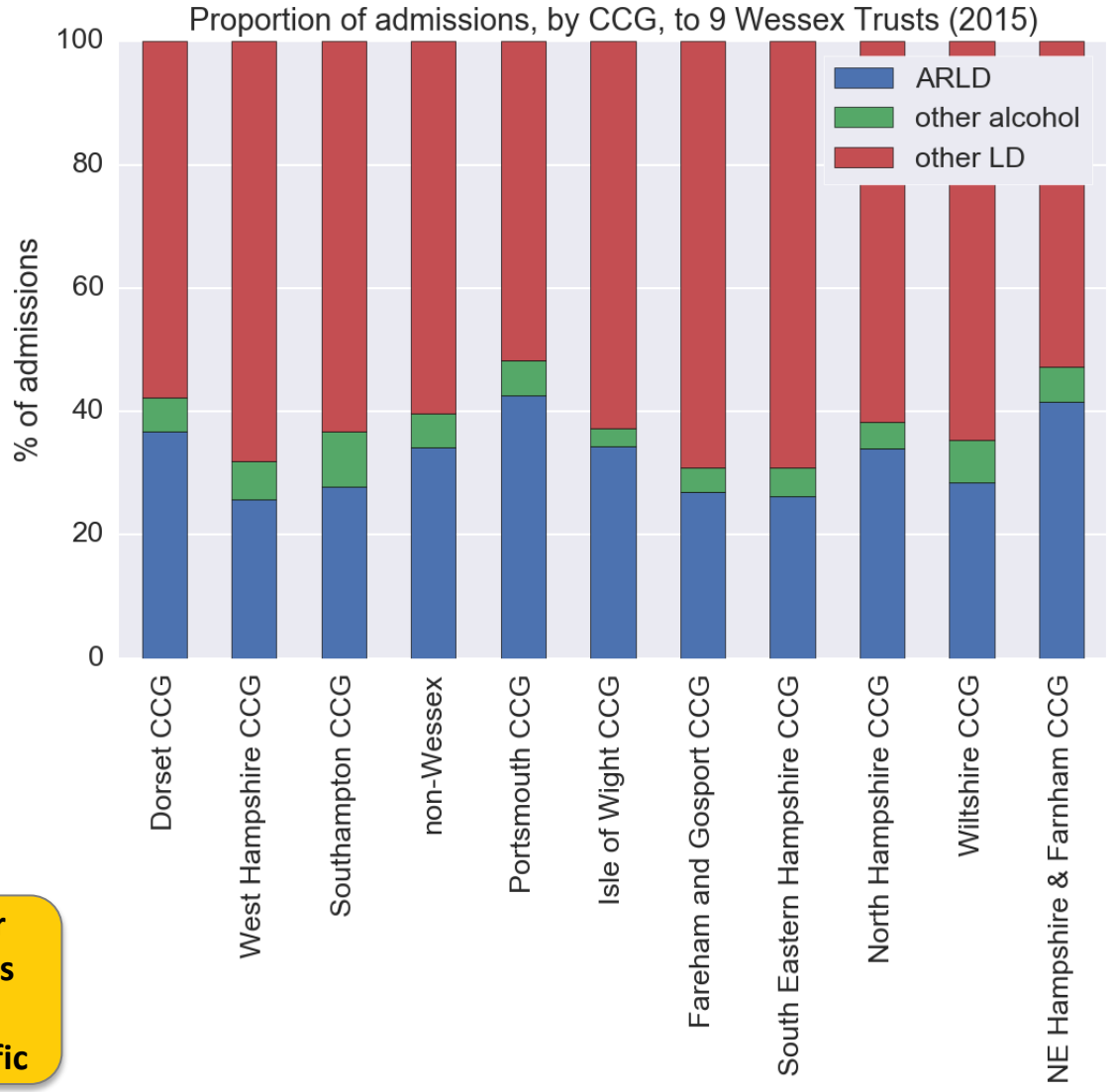


CCG variation: % of Liver Disease admissions coded with ARLD/alcohol

Key Narrative

In 2015 the percentage of LD admissions coded with ARLD varied by CCG between 26-42.5%.

The percentage of LD admissions coded with alcohol-specific conditions ('ARLD' + 'other alcohol') varied by CCG between 31-48%.



Up to 48% of Liver Disease admissions from some CCGs were alcohol-specific

Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex

- **Nuffield Trust report** on "Alcohol-specific activity in hospitals in England" (published Dec 2015) showed:
  - **rising burden of alcohol on A&E departments** (attendance rates doubled between 2008/09-2013/14)
  - highlighted the **possibility for earlier intervention**: ¾ of those diagnosed with ARLD during 2009/2010 had contact with hospital services the year before diagnosis.

Source: http://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/node/4483

Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex: current cost

For further detail on the method for the estimated cost avoidance see Appendix D

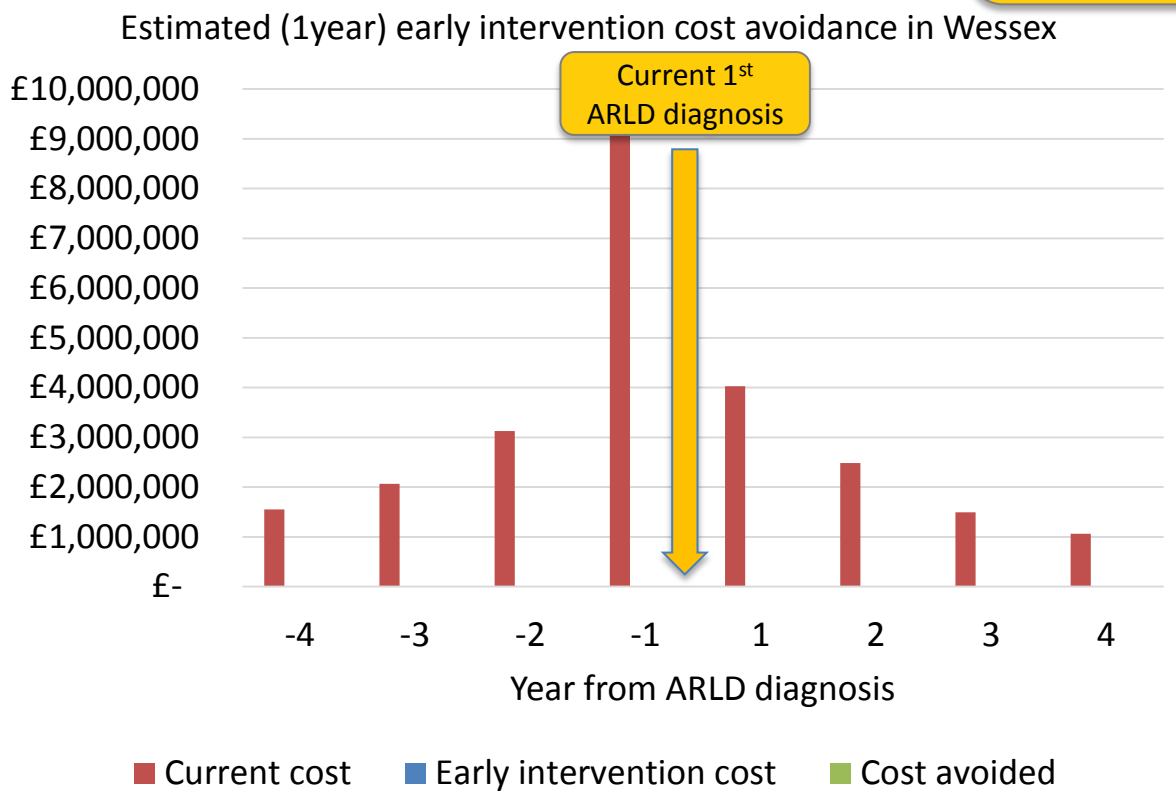
Key Narrative

The Nuffield Trust report showed the average number of: elective admissions, emergency admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments for ARLD patients before and after first ARLD diagnosis.

There are ~865 new ARLD diagnoses in Wessex each year and the costs of acute treatment for the cohort were estimated using National Schedule of Reference Costs (year 2014-15).

An annual mortality rate of 15.3% is used, as found from the Wessex Trust data examined.

The estimated annual cost of treatment for all ARLD patients at the 9 Acute Trusts is £25.3m.



The estimated annual cost of treatment for all ARLD patients at the 9 Acute Trusts is £25.3m

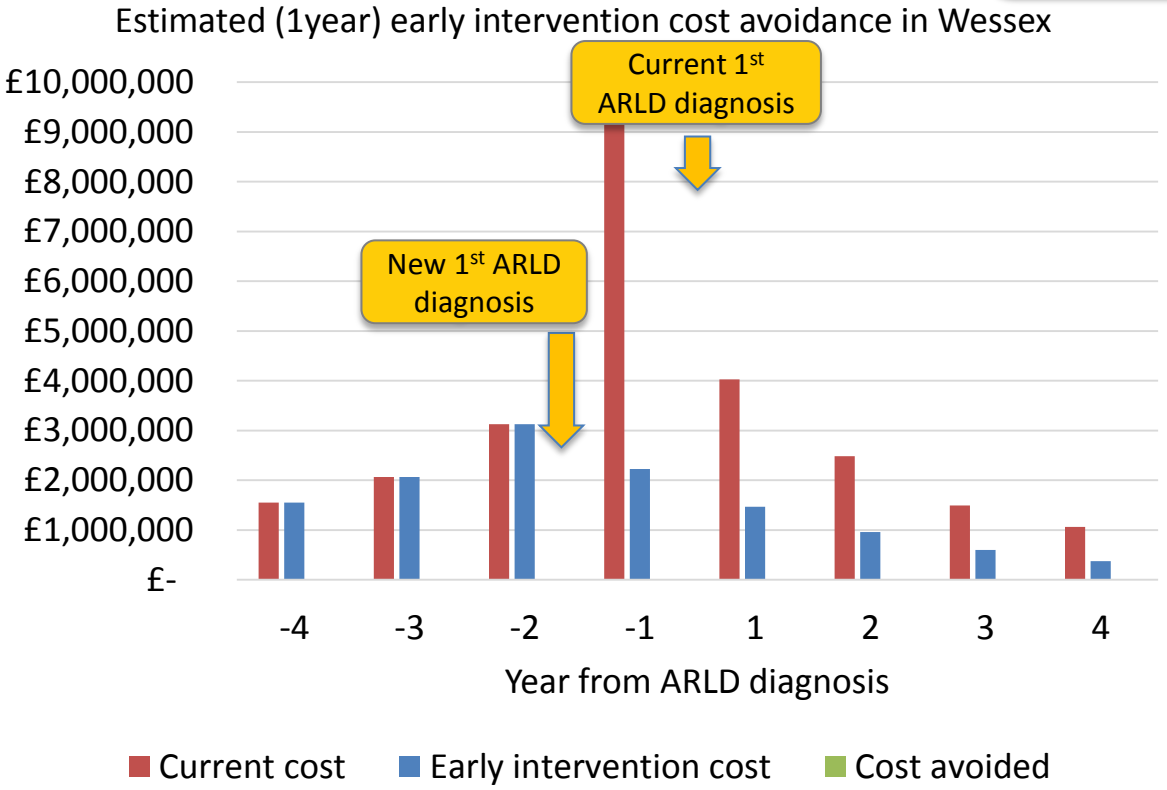
Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex: new cost

For further detail on the method for the estimated cost avoidance see Appendix D

Key Narrative

Assuming earlier intervention prior to current first ARLD diagnosis (and a reduction in annual mortality rate), the subsequent reduction in elective admissions, emergency admissions and A&E attendances (but not outpatient appointments) would result in a reduced cost of managing the patient cohort each year after the earlier diagnosis.

If diagnosis of ARLD patients is brought forward by 1 year the new estimated annual cost of treatment is £12.4m. Bringing this forward by 2 years the estimated cost is £8.1m.



By improving the management of patients in Acute Trust settings the treatment cost of ARLD patients is estimated to be between £8.1m - £12.4m per year

Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex: cost avoided

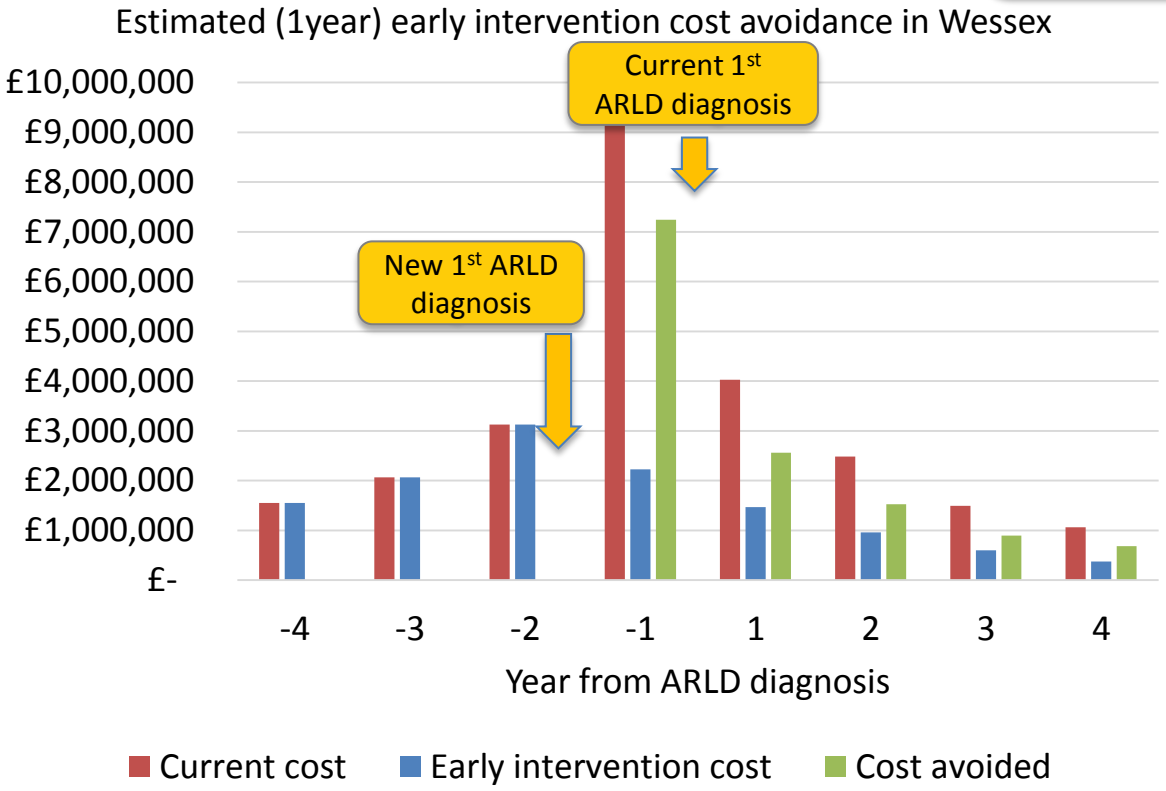
For further detail on the method for the estimated cost avoidance see Appendix D

Key Narrative

If diagnosis of ARLD patients is brought forward (by either 1 or 2 years) the estimated cost avoidance at the 9 Acute Trusts is between £12.9m-£17.2m per year respectively.

Note: this is likely an under estimate as the figures only include hospitalised costs; costs in additional care settings could further increase the potential costs avoided.

Early intervention requires mandatory alcohol screening and referrals to alcohol care team. The cost of an alcohol team is approximately £150k annually per Trust.



By improving the management of patients in the 9 Acute Trust settings it is estimated that a cost avoidance of £12.9-17.2m per year is possible

Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex: where are costs avoided?

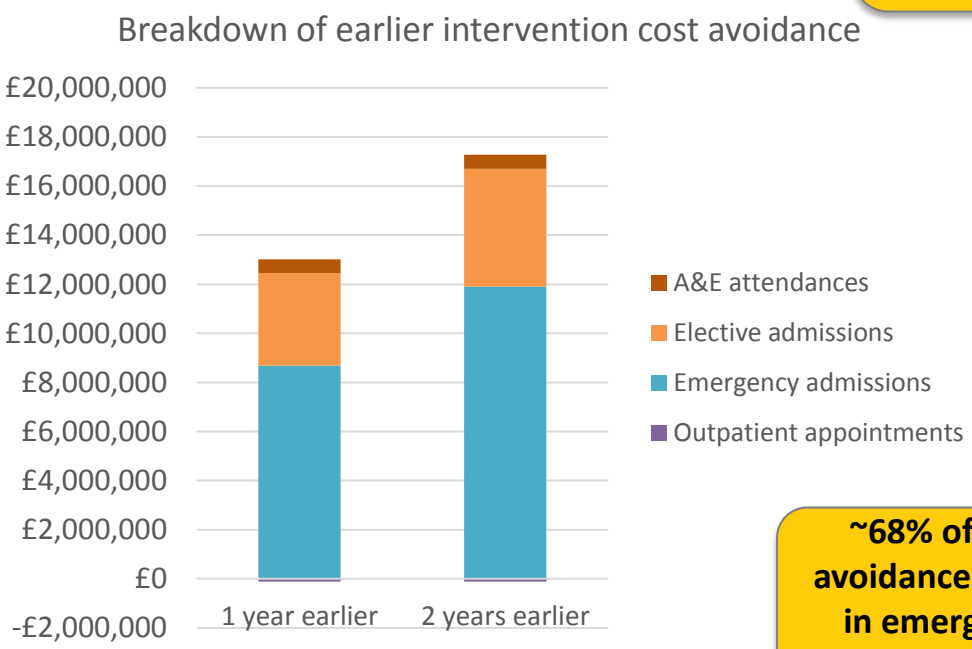
For further detail on the method for the estimated cost avoidance see Appendix D

Key Narrative

The estimated cost savings from intervening either 1 or 2 years earlier are broken down opposite.

The largest estimated cost avoidance is from emergency admissions (contributing ~68% of cost avoidance), followed by elective admissions (contributing ~28%).

An increase in cost is expected from outpatient appointments (due to the increased patient survival). This cost is relatively small in comparison and is included in the estimated cost avoidance quoted.



~68% of cost avoidance will be in emergency admissions

	1 year earlier	2 years earlier
Elective admissions	£3,763,400	£4,805,800
Emergency admissions	£8,685,100	£11,901,000
Outpatient appointments	-£108,800	-£108,800
A&E attendances	£566,700	£566,700
Total	£12,910,000	£17,160,000

What must you do for an effective ARLD pathway?

For Providers:

1. Implement a Trust alcohol strategy
2. Find an alcohol champion at executive level
3. Designate a board metric for Alcohol
   - e.g. NICE Alcohol Quality Standard
4. Mandatory alcohol screening and referral to alcohol team
   - A Trust alcohol team costs around £150k per annum and consists of:
     0.1-0.2 FTE hospital clinical lead
     2.0 FTE specialist nurses (one band 7 & one band 5 - mix of MHN and RGN)
     1.0 FTE band 3 for alcohol screening
     1.0 FTE admin/pathway co-ordinator (for co-ordination and data)

For Commissioners:

1. Commission an alcohol pathway that supports earlier intervention
2. Ensure that routine monitoring systems are in place to track implementation of the new pathway

Wessex AHSN can offer you:

The Wessex AHSN have developed a toolkit to assist Trusts to implement system wide changes to how patients with ARLD are identified and managed within current resources.

This includes:

- an audit protocol
- implementation pack
- training resources
- access to Trust data

…to benchmark their organisation and monitor changes.

For more information please contact:
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Appendix A: Data definitions & limitations

Definitions:

- Liver Disease (LD) admissions were identified as: any admission with an ICD-10 diagnosis starting with ‘K7’ (anywhere within episode). See Appendix B for full list.
- Alcohol Related Liver Disease (ARLD) admissions were identified as: any admission with an ICD-10 diagnosis starting with ‘K70’ (anywhere within episode)
- Alcohol-specific LD admissions were identified with the same methodology as in the Local Alcohol Profiles England produced by PHE: any LD admission with an ICD-10 diagnosis within the list seen in Appendix C (anywhere within episode)

Limitations:

- Records are not linked between Trusts, hence the same patient may receive treatment at multiple Trusts but will be recorded as a separate individual within this dataset and corresponding analyses
- Any calculation involving a death involves only the deaths recorded on the Trust database (i.e. some deaths outside of the hospital may not be recorded)
- Although in some analyses patients are separated into ARLD/non-ARLD groups it is likely that there will always be patients in the non-ARLD group who in fact have not yet been diagnosed with ARLD
- PbR costs are not presented for one Trust as insufficient data was provided to calculate this. Of the admissions with suitable data 10% of the admissions could not have a PbR cost calculated (hence estimates of the total cost could be around 10% smaller than presented)

Appendix B: ICD-10 Liver Disease diagnosis codes (1/3)

ICD-10 code	Description
K70	**Alcoholic liver disease**
K70.0	Alcoholic fatty liver
K70.1	Alcoholic hepatitis
K70.2	Alcoholic fibrosis and sclerosis of liver
K70.3	Alcoholic cirrhosis of liver
K70.4	Alcoholic hepatic failure
K70.9	Alcoholic liver disease, unspecified
K71	**Toxic liver disease**
K71.0	Toxic liver disease with cholestasis
K71.1	Toxic liver disease with hepatic necrosis
K71.2	Toxic liver disease with acute hepatitis
K71.3	Toxic liver disease with chronic persistent hepatitis
K71.4	Toxic liver disease with chronic lobular hepatitis
K71.5	Toxic liver disease with chronic active hepatitis
K71.6	Toxic liver disease with hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K71.7	Toxic liver disease with fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver
K71.8	Toxic liver disease with other disorders of liver
K71.9	Toxic liver disease, unspecified
K72	**Hepatic failure, not elsewhere classified**
K72.0	Acute and subacute hepatic failure
K72.1	Chronic hepatic failure
K72.9	Hepatic failure, unspecified

Source: WHO ICD-10 classifications
http://apps.who.int/classifications/icd10/browse/2016/en#/K70-K77

Appendix B: ICD-10 Liver Disease diagnosis codes (2/3)

ICD-10 code	Description
K73	**Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere classified**
K73.0	Chronic persistent hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K73.1	Chronic lobular hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K73.2	Chronic active hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K73.8	Other chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K73.9	Chronic hepatitis, unspecified
K74	**Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver**
K74.0	Hepatic fibrosis
K74.1	Hepatic sclerosis
K74.2	Hepatic fibrosis with hepatic sclerosis
K74.3	Primary biliary cirrhosis
K74.4	Secondary biliary cirrhosis
K74.5	Biliary cirrhosis, unspecified
K74.6	Other and unspecified cirrhosis of liver
K75	**Other inflammatory liver diseases**
K75.1	Phlebitis of portal vein
K75.2	Nonspecific reactive hepatitis
K75.3	Granulomatous hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K75.4	Autoimmune hepatitis
K75.8	Other specified inflammatory liver diseases: Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis [NASH]
K75.9	Inflammatory liver disease, unspecified

Source: WHO ICD-10 classifications
http://apps.who.int/classifications/icd10/browse/2016/en#/K70-K77

Appendix B: ICD-10 Liver Disease diagnosis codes (3/3)

ICD-10 code	Description
K76	**Other diseases of liver**
K76.0	Fatty (change of) liver, not elsewhere classified (Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease [NAFLD])
K76.1	Chronic passive congestion of liver
K76.2	Central haemorrhagic necrosis of liver
K76.3	Infarction of liver
K76.4	Peliosis hepatis
K76.5	Hepatic veno-occlusive disease
K76.6	Portal hypertension
K76.7	Hepatorenal syndrome
K76.8	Other specified diseases of liver
K76.9	Liver disease, unspecified
K77*	**Liver disorders in diseases classified elsewhere**
K77.0*	Liver disorders in infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere
K77.8*	Liver disorders in other diseases classified elsewhere

Source: WHO ICD-10 classifications
http://apps.who.int/classifications/icd10/browse/2016/en#/K70-K77

Appendix C: Wholly alcohol attributable ICD-10 codes used to define alcohol-specific inpatient activity (alcohol-specific conditions)

ICD-10 code	Description
E24.4	Alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing's syndrome
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol
G31.2	Degeneration of nervous system due to alcohol
G62.1	Alcoholic polyneuropathy
G72.1	Alcoholic myopathy
I42.6	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy
K29.2	Alcoholic gastritis
K70	Alcoholic liver disease
K85.2	Alcohol-induced acute pancreatitis
K86.0	Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis
Q86.0	Foetal alcohol syndrome (dysmorphic)
R78.0	Excess alcohol blood levels
T51.0	Ethanol poisoning
T51.1	Methanol poisoning
T51.9	Toxic effect of alcohol, unspecified
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol
X65	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol, undetermined intent
Y15	Poisoning by and exposure to alcohol, undetermined intent
Y90	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by blood alcohol content
Y91	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by level of intoxication

Source: PHE England Local Alcohol Profiles User Guide
http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-alcohol-profiles

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (1/7)

Introduction

The estimation of 'early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex' was calculated using data from a variety of sources:

- Wessex AHSN Acute Liver Disease database
- "*Alcohol-specific activity in hospitals in England*" (2015), Nuffield Trust report
- NHS reference costs 2014 to 2015*
- "*The Epidemiology of Alcoholic Liver Disease*" (2004), Mann R.E., Smart, R.G. & Govoni, R., Publication from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

The method and assumptions made in the calculations are outlined in this appendix. The inputs and assumptions within the cost estimation model are summarised in the following slide with further detail surrounding the method following. All **cost estimates are at 2014/15 values**.

*Available here: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/nhs-reference-costs

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (2/7)

'Current cost' model inputs

Model input	Value	Source/comments
Initial size of ARLD cohort	865 (Wessex), varies by Trust	Source: Wessex AHSN Acute Liver Disease database (2011-2015). Data showed ~865 patients each year between 2011-15 were newly diagnosed with ARLD in Wessex.
Annual mortality rate	Fixed annual rate of 15.3%	Source: as above. Annual rate calculated from the 4-year survival probability (51.4%) of ARLD patients who had first ARLD diagnosis in 2012. Note: deaths only include those recorded on Trust data systems.
Average additional utilisation rate of secondary care services by ARLD patients: 4-years before and after ARLD diagnosis	Rates vary based on year from ARLD diagnosis (values in Appendix D: 3/7)	Source: "Alcohol-specific activity in hospitals in England" (2015), Nuffield Trust report
Average cost of: elective admissions, emergency admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments	Fixed cost based on 2014/15 prices (values in Appendix D: 5/7)	Source: NHS reference costs 2014 to 2015

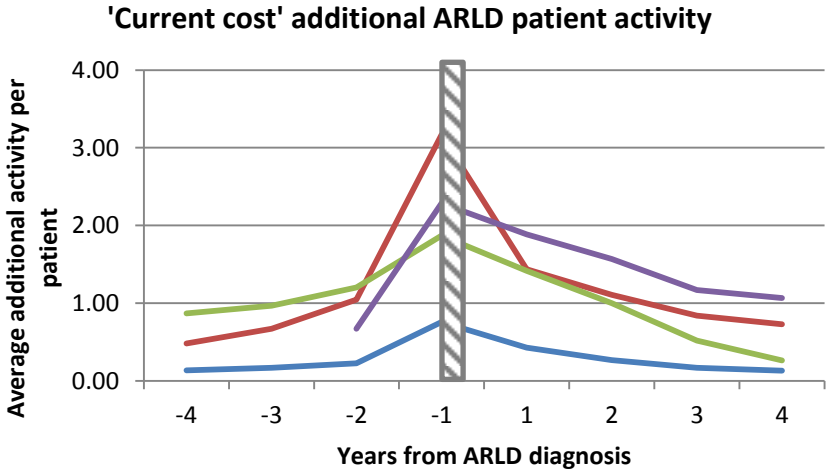
'New cost' model inputs

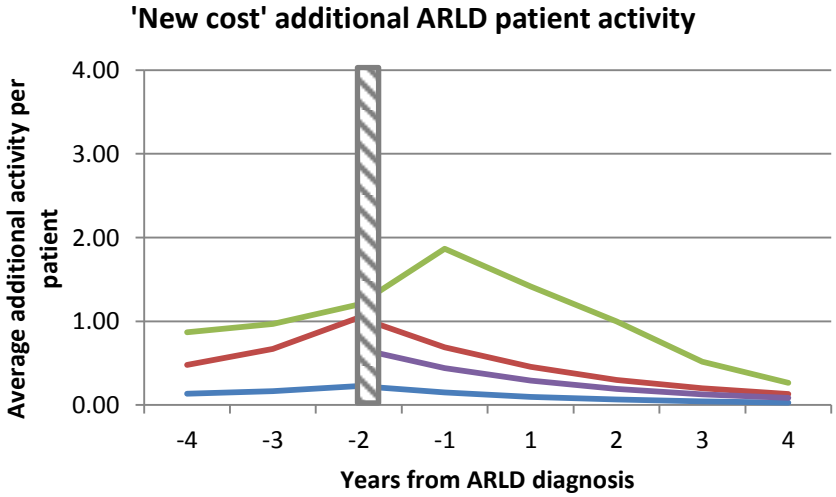
Model input	Value	Source/comments
Initial size of ARLD cohort	865 (Wessex), varies by Trust	Source: Wessex AHSN Acute Liver Disease database (2011-2015). Data showed ~865 patients each year between 2011-15 were newly diagnosed with ARLD in Wessex.
Annual mortality rate	Fixed annual rate of 2.1%	Source: "The Epidemiology of Alcoholic Liver Disease" (2004), Mann R.E., Smart, R.G. & Govoni, R., Publication from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Annual rate calculated from the 5-year survival probability (90%) of those with cirrhosis who stop drinking.
Average additional utilisation rate of secondary care services by ARLD patients: 4-years before and after ARLD diagnosis	Rates vary based on year from ARLD diagnosis (values in Appendix D: 3/7)	Source: "Alcohol-specific activity in hospitals in England" (2015), Nuffield Trust report. Modifications to the additional utilisation rates, reported by the Nuffield Trust, were made with the assumption that earlier diagnosis will lead to an earlier reduction in additional utilisation rates.
Average cost of: elective admissions, emergency admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments	Fixed cost based on 2014/15 prices (values in Appendix D: 5/7)	Source: NHS reference costs 2014 to 2015

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (3/7)

Additional hospital usage of ARLD patients

The average hospital activity for ARLD diagnosed patients (above that of the average population) was taken from the Nuffield Trust Report (2015). This showed the average: elective admissions, emergency admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments for ARLD patients before and after their first ARLD diagnosis. A summary of the additional activity as an 'age, sex & deprivation standardised rate per capita' is shown below (left). The 'current cost' estimates are based on this additional hospital utilisation rate. An assumption that earlier diagnosis will lead to a reduction in: elective admissions, emergency admissions and A&E attendances (but not outpatient appointments) is used. An annual reduction in the activity rate of 33% is assumed. The altered additional hospital utilisation (for diagnosis 1 year earlier) is shown below (right). This hospital utilisation is used for the 'new cost' estimations.





Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (4/7)

Number of new diagnoses per year & mortality assumptions

The number of the newly diagnosed Wessex ARLD patients was identified from the Wessex AHSN Liver Disease database. There are ~865 new ARLD diagnoses at the 9 Acute Trusts in Wessex each year (2011-2015). The Wessex Trust data examined showed a 4-year survival rate of 51.4% (equal to an annual mortality rate of 15.3%). This survival rate is calculated only from the deaths known to the Trusts. This was used in the estimation of the 'current cost'.

Mann *et al* (2004) states the 5-year survival rate of cirrhosis patients who stop drinking as 90% (equal to an annual mortality rate of 2.1%). This value is used to estimate the cohort size in the 'new cost' estimation. This is thought to be a 'best case' survival rate and hence will produce a more conservative estimate of the possible cost avoidance (a smaller cohort being alive will result in lower service utilisation). The summary of the estimated cohort changes over time is shown in the table below.

					Diagnosis				
	Year	-4	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3	4	Annual mortality
CURRENT Patient Cohort	865	865	865	865	865	733	621	526	446	15.3%
NEW Cohort	865	865	865	865	865	847	830	813	797	2.1%

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (5/7)

Estimating additional hospital activity of ARLD patients and costs associated

The total additional hospital activity was calculated from the average additional activity rate multiplied by the number of patients alive in each year. The total cost of treatment was then calculated using average National Schedule of Reference Costs (Year: 2014/15) for: elective admissions, emergency admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments. Costs used are shown in the table (right).

This was completed for the 'current cost' and 'new cost', which were then compared to give an estimated 'cost avoidance'. The summary table of calculations is given in the following slide.

Source: National Schedule of Reference Costs Year : 2014-15

Elective admission	£	3,945
Emergency admission	£	2,320
Outpatient appointment	£	178
A&E attendance	£	127

Average cost calculations: National schedule of reference costs

The reference costs are: the average unit cost to the NHS of providing secondary healthcare to NHS patients and are used to set prices for NHS-funded services in England.

The calculated average elective and non-elective admission costs were weighted by activity after the exclusion of tariff costs for: Labour and delivery incl. C-sections, Neonatal, Paediatric & Under 18 years. Non-elective long-stay and non-elective short-stay costs were weighted by activity in order to calculate an average emergency admission cost.

The average costs for A&E attendances and outpatient appointments were not weighted by activity. No exclusions were made to the A&E tariffs. The average cost for outpatient appointments was calculated from the hepatology treatment function only.

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (6/7)

The tabulated hospital activity and costs for the cohort, in the four years prior and the four years following ARLD diagnosis, are summarised below. In this example the 'new cost' is based on the 1-year earlier diagnosis of patients.

CURRENT ADDITIONAL COST

Year from current 1st diagnosis	-4	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3	4	Total
Addional elective admissions	115	144	195	654	312	166	88	57	
Additional emergency admissions	415	580	905	2,738	1,052	687	441	324	
Additional outpatient appointments	750	836	1,038	1,615	1,038	621	272	118	
Additional A&E attendances	-	-	579	1,976	1,382	973	614	476	
Spending estimate	**£ 1,551,695**	**£ 2,064,073**	**£ 3,125,458**	**£ 9,469,224**	**£ 4,029,739**	**£ 2,483,183**	**£ 1,495,649**	**£ 1,059,727**	**£ 25,278,748**
Addional elective admissions	£ 454,990	£ 568,738	£ 767,796	£ 2,578,277	£ 1,228,966	£ 655,694	£ 345,845	£ 226,218	
Additional emergency admissions	£ 963,264	£ 1,346,498	£ 2,099,422	£ 6,352,560	£ 2,440,391	£ 1,593,393	£ 1,023,494	£ 752,162	
Additional outpatient appointments	£ 133,441	£ 148,838	£ 184,764	£ 287,411	£ 184,838	£ 110,538	£ 48,374	£ 20,930	
Additional A&E attendances	£ -	£ -	£ 73,477	£ 250,976	£ 175,543	£ 123,558	£ 77,936	£ 60,418	

ESTIMATED NEW COST

Year from current 1st diagnosis	-4	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3	4	Total
Addional elective admissions	115	144	195	128	83	54	35	22	
Additional emergency admissions	415	580	905	597	386	250	161	104	
Additional outpatient appointments	750	836	1,038	1,615	1,200	830	420	210	
Additional A&E attendances	-	-	579	382	247	160	103	67	
Spending estimate	**£ 1,551,695**	**£ 2,064,073**	**£ 3,125,458**	**£ 2,228,269**	**£ 1,467,896**	**£ 958,969**	**£ 599,214**	**£ 376,723**	**£ 12,372,296**
Addional elective admissions	£ 454,990	£ 568,738	£ 767,796	£ 506,745	£ 327,492	£ 211,807	£ 136,929	£ 88,595	
Additional emergency admissions	£ 963,264	£ 1,346,498	£ 2,099,422	£ 1,385,618	£ 895,478	£ 579,153	£ 374,412	£ 242,249	
Additional outpatient appointments	£ 133,441	£ 148,838	£ 184,764	£ 287,411	£ 213,585	£ 147,740	£ 74,769	£ 37,401	
Additional A&E attendances	£ -	£ -	£ 73,477	£ 48,495	£ 31,340	£ 20,270	£ 13,104	£ 8,478	

COST AVOIDED	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 7,240,955	£ 2,561,843	£ 1,524,214	£ 896,435	£ 683,004	£ 12,906,452

Appendix D: Estimating early intervention cost avoidance in Wessex (7/7)

The total: 'current cost', 'new cost' and 'cost avoided' estimations for the cohort over the 8 years is given in the table below for the assumption of diagnosing patients both 1-year and 2-years earlier.

Total 8-year estimated treatment costs associated with earlier diagnosis of ARLD

	CURRENT COST	NEW COST	COST AVOIDED
Diagnosis 1-year earlier	£ 25,278,748	£ 12,372,296	£ 12,906,452
Diagnosis 2-years earlier	£ 25,278,748	£ 8,114,094	£ 17,164,654

These values are the same as the annual cost if all ARLD patients (not just a single cohort) at the 9 Acute Trusts in Wessex were managed in the same way. It is therefore estimated that **across the 9 Acute Trusts there is a potential cost avoidance of between £12.9m - £17.2m per year** through the earlier diagnosis and management of ARLD patients**.**

Note: this is likely to be an under estimate of total cost as the figures only include hospitalised costs; reduced costs in additional care settings could further increase the potential costs avoided with earlier diagnosis.