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From: Press
Date: 02/05/17
Subject: Hospital food costs and food wastage

REQUEST

I'm a journalist with ITV. I'm trying to get the latest figures for the cost of an inpatient's meal in any hospitals you might have responsibility for and the cost of disposing of waste meals. I have two questions:

1. Could you tell me the cost of feeding one inpatient per day (patient meal day) calculated in the same way it is done for the ERIC data.

<http://hefs.hscic.gov.uk/ERIC.asp>

I would like the average daily cost for the provision of all meals and beverages fed to one inpatient per day. The cost should include all pay and non-pay, including provisions, ward issues, disposables, equipment and its maintenance. This is not the average cost for a single meal but for all meals and beverages delivered to the patients in one day. Please supply the latest possible data 2016/17.

2. Could you tell me the number of wasted meal servings using the same calculation methods used in the ERIC reporting system. Although this figure is no longer included in the ERIC reporting I would still like to see latest figures. Please supply up to date figures including 2017. For plated meal systems, this is the number (calculated over the full menu cycle or 7 days where no menu cycle is used), of unserved in-patient meals remaining at the end of the meals service period expressed as a percentage of the total number of meals provided and available at the commencement of the meal service period.

RESPONSE

1. The Trusts ERIC data submission for 2016/17 is currently being calculated and validated ready for submission at the end of June and therefore not yet available. However, for 2015/16 the cost of feeding one inpatient per day was £9.77.
2. The Trust's 2016/17 patient meal waste is calculated at 0.9%.