



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
**Electronic Presentations**

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**Promoting the practice of day and same day surgery service in Hospital Authority**

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**Keywords:**

Day Surgery

**Introduction**

There is a wide range of non-emergency surgical operations that can be carried out as day surgery. This has considerable advantages for patients, the public and the Hospital Authority (HA). Numerous studies have shown that the outcomes of day surgeries are as good as those performed for inpatients.

**Objectives**

The benefits of day surgery include the following:

A. HA side

1. Shorter hospital stays, which enables a higher number of patients to be treated, thereby reducing waiting lists.
2. The release of inpatient facilities such as main operating theatre time for more complex and emergency cases.
3. In dedicated facilities, avoid cancellation of elective cases
4. Overnight staffing is reduced.
5. A decrease in both the time taken to perform surgical procedures and their cost, taking advantage of advances in surgical and anaesthetic care.
6. Better use of high-cost operating room apparatus and supplies.

B. Patient side

1. Shorter hospital stays cause less disruption to their normal lives.
2. Reduced risk of cross infection and less stress.
3. Improved access to surgical care.

**Methodology**

Since 2008, the HA has established key performance indicators on the rate of day and same day surgery in major surgical specialties to monitor the performance and practices among different surgical units. Through benchmarking and sharing of good practices, the day surgery service is enhanced.

**Result**

It was noted that the rate of day surgery in HA is generally lower than those others comparable European countries. HA hospitals have sufficient capacity within designated day surgery units (DSUs). There are 28 units with at least three in every cluster. Yet due to various factors such as manpower shortage, mixing-up of main

Operating Theatre list, lack of community nurse post-operative support, etc. the capacity of day surgery service in HA has not been maximized. Apart from those providers perspective, there are also mixed patients attitudes on acceptance of day surgery. Some patients, especially those senior patients with less social support generally favour being treated as inpatients rather than on a day surgery basis. Addressing the problems of long waiting time in treatment of non-emergency surgical diseases is a priority for HA. Modernization in model of care for surgical diseases is crucial to the long term development of the surgical services in HA in particular importance to an aging population in the territory. The concept of 'Short-stay' surgery service will be an integral component of health care in the future. The treatment of appropriate non-emergency cases by day surgery can be advantageous for health care providers and the communities they serve-more patients can be treated more effectively and efficiently.