

The number of admissions to Basque hospitals increased by 2.6% in 2014

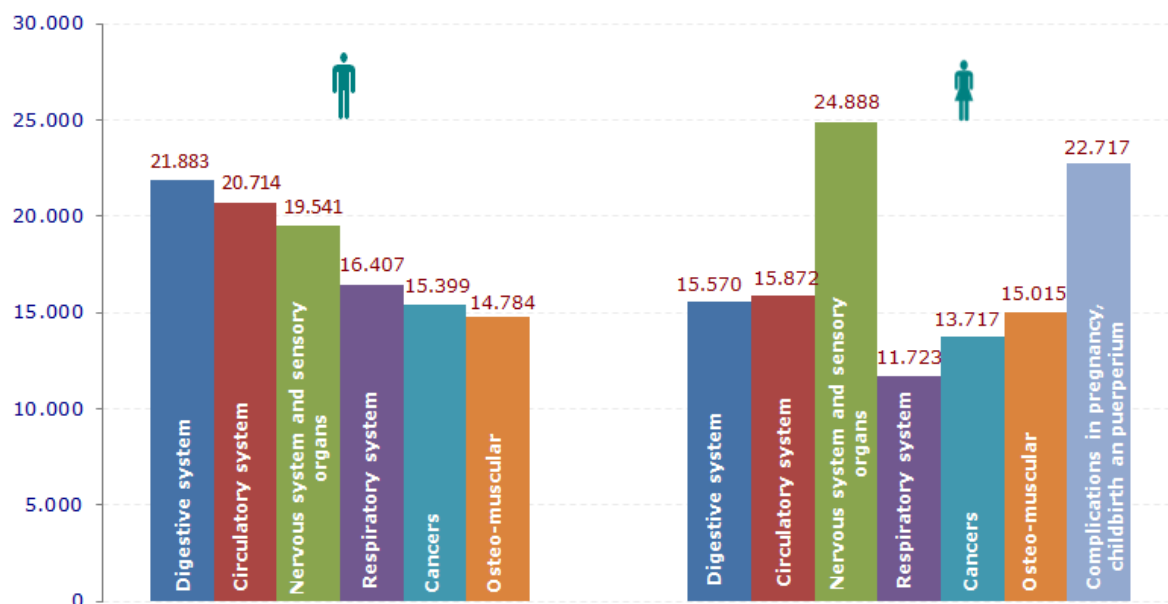
Cataracts, with an 8% increase in admissions, made diseases affecting the nervous system and the sense organs the main cause for hospital care

Hospitals in the Basque Country registered 320,761 discharges of people that were admitted in 2014, which was 2.6% up on the previous year, according to Eustat data. This increase was 3.3% in public hospitals (where 78% of the discharges took place) and 0.4% in private hospitals.

97.4% of hospitalised individuals lived in the Basque Country (49.3% in Bizkaia, 32.5% in Gipuzkoa and 15.6% in Álava), 2.4% lived in other provinces (Burgos, Cantabria and Navarra and La Rioja being the most common) and 0.1% lived abroad.

Most of these people were women, at 51.2%, with men at 48.8%. However, if we discount admissions for childbirth and pregnancy, women would make up 47.5% of total admissions, and men 52.5%. The number of patients admitted over the age of 65 is continuing to grow. They made up 46.5% of discharges in 2014, with people aged 78 being most commonly hospitalised that year.

People discharged by most common diseases. 2014



Source: Eustat. Hospital discharge statistic

According to the standardised classification of diseases, the most common cause of hospitalisation were diseases affecting the nervous system and the sense organs

(13.9%). This was because of cataracts, which, with 25,000 cases treated, was the most commonly diagnosed disease.

The most common diseases, at similar percentages, were those of the digestive system and the circulatory system in second (11.7%) and third (11.4%) place respectively, followed by musculoskeletal disorders (9.3%), tumours (9.1%) and respiratory diseases (8.8%).

This order varies according to gender and age. For women, hospital admissions due to pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal issues came second (13.8%) after diseases of the nervous system and diseases affecting the sense organs (14.7%). Women were mainly admitted for diseases linked to age: cataracts and osteoarthritis.

The two main reasons for which men were admitted to hospital were diseases of the digestive system (14%) and diseases of the circulatory system (13.2%). Inguinal hernias were the most common disease of the digestive system, whilst heart failure and arrhythmias were the most common circulatory diseases. Respiratory diseases, such as chronic bronchitis and pneumonia, also gained prominence, and came in fourth position.

Tumours, which accounted for 30,000 hospital admissions, were the main cause of death in hospitals. Of these, tumours of the bladder, colon, breast and prostate were the most significant causes.

The average stay in hospital stood at 5.7 days in 2014. The longest stays corresponded to mental disorders (13.6 days on average), then perinatal diseases (10.6 days), infectious diseases (8.7 days) and tumours (7.7 days).

People discharged by most common diseases according to age. 2014

Main diagnostic groups	New entries Number	Variation rate % 2014/2013	Total discharges (*) %	Age groups			
				0-14	15-44	45-64	and over
Total	320.761	2,6	100	16.827	72.411	82.400	149.123
Nervous system and sensory organ	44.429	7,2	13,9	1.383	3.123	8.984	30.939
Digestive system	37.453	3,0	11,7	1.681	8.048	11.881	15.843
Circulatory system	36.586	-0,3	11,4	147	2.841	9.445	24.153
Osteo-muscular	29.799	1,1	9,3	430	6.575	11.520	11.274
Cancers	29.116	1,0	9,1	429	3.562	10.734	14.391
Respiratory system	28.130	3,0	8,8	3.681	4.196	5.086	15.167
Fractures and injuries	23.269	0,7	7,3	1.164	5.199	6.425	10.481
Complications in pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	22.717	-0,7	7,1	8	22.575	134	-

(*) % over total of admissions

Source: Eustat. Hospital morbidity statistics

Note: The data refers to hospitals providing acute care. Conventional hospital admissions were considered, with stays of at least one night or those who were discharged the same day. To calculate the average stay, stays lasting one day were not factored in.

For further information:

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Hospital discharge statistics databank