



Acute care toolkit 4

Delivering a 12-hour, 7-day consultant presence on the acute medical unit October 2012

Appendix 2: Calculation of programmed activities for direct clinical care on the AMU

Based on a 7-day model of 12-hour hands-on consultant cover, a minimum of 23.4 direct clinical care programmed activities (DCCPAs) are required per week. This figure will include some time for patient-related administration. This calculation assumes that a single consultant is available on the AMU at any one time. In reality, most hospitals will require more than one consultant working on the AMU during core hours, as described above. Overlap between consecutive shifts should also be factored into calculations to enable handover between consultants.

7-day, 12-hour service on AMU = 23.4 PAs per week

Weekdays	8am–4pm = 2 PAs
	4pm–7pm = 0.75 PAs
	7pm–8pm = 0.33PAs
Total	15.4 PAs per week

Weekends	8am–8pm = 4 PAs
Total	8 PAs per week

7-day, 14-hour service with 1-hour overlap between AMU shifts = 30 PAs per week

Weekdays	8am–4pm = 2 PAs
	3pm–10pm = 2 PAs
Total	20 PAs per week

Weekends	8am–4pm = 2.66 PAs
	3pm–10pm = 2.33PAs
Total	10 PAs per week

Hybrid rota – 14 hours weekdays; 12 hours at weekends = 28 PAs per week