4) *Patterns of mental health care*

The indicator brings together two variables (total number of admissions per person in the year, and total length of stay per person in the year) to describe the pattern of mental health care within a Trust.

4.1 Numerator (Total number of admissions per person): The total number of admissions to any NHS trust during the whole of the financial year for all those individuals, aged 17 to 64 in April, who had a first psychiatric admission (specialty codes 710, 715) in the April of the financial year meeting the denominator criteria.

Numerator (Total length of stay per person): The total length of stay in days across all numerator admissions during the whole of the financial year and meeting the age criterion in April.

The numerators consist of CIPS that include both finished and unfinished episodes to measure all admissions during the financial year. Admissions that end in death are included in the numerator.

4.2 Denominators (Total number of admissions per person, and Total length of stay per person): The number of first admissions of individuals (unique person based continuous inpatient spells), aged 17 to 64, to a psychiatric specialty (codes 710, 715) during the April of the financial year, but excluding those with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse or eating disorders or where the discharge is coded as death. Denominator CIPS are selected on the basis of the main specialty of the first episode of the spell and the age at the start of the spell meeting the required criteria. Patients with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse or eating disorder (ICD10 codes F10-F19, F50, Z50.2, Z50.3) have been excluded.

4.3 Derivation of indicator:

The mean total number of admissions per person and the mean total length of stay per person were calculated for each strategic health authority for the financial year (FY) 2000-1. The minimum figure of each distribution was used as a desirable and achievable standard against which to monitor performance over time and between SHAs. Separate z-scores were calculated for each variable for each year using the formulae:

z-*score* (Total number of admissions　　=　(Total number of admissions per person for SHA X　for FY Y

 per person) *for SHA X for FY year Y*　　 - Minimum total number of admissions per person across SHAs in FY2000-1) ‗

　　　　　　　　　　　　　Standard Deviation (Total number of admissions per person) across SHAs in FY 2000-1

z-*score* (Total length of stay per person) =   (Total length of stay per person for SHA X for FY Y

 for SHA X for FY Y　　　　 - Minimum total length of stay per person across SHAs in FY2000-1) ‗

　　　　　　　　　　　　　Standard Deviation (Total length of stay per person) across SHAs in FY 2000-1

The composite z-score is simply the sum of the two individual z-scores.