

To: SHA Chief Executives
cc: SHA Directors of Performance
Sir Ian Carruthers
Duncan Selbie
Dr Fiona Adshead
Ian Mills

Gateway: 6971

2 August 2006

Dear colleagues

48 Hour Access to GUM Services

Further to Duncan Selbie's letter of 16 June, I can confirm that ROCR approval has now been received for the new data collection on 48 hour access to GUM services (ROCR/OR/0143/002).

The expectation remains that GUM services should start returning data through Unify via their provider Trust or PCT by 18 August where possible (in respect of July 2006) and by October at the latest where IT capability is not yet sufficient. Full guidance and contact details for the new data collection have been released and are available on Unify:

http://nww.steis.doh.nhs.uk/steis/access_disc.nsf/News/04CBB94C78DB90F1802571B800516436?OpenDocument

To support delivery of the LDP, I attach a 'top tips' guide which draws on the lessons learned from the ongoing Medical Foundation for Aids & Sexual Health (MEDFASH) reviews of GUM services. This is intended to be used by SHAs and PCTs as a practical checklist to help assess and improve current performance on the 48 hour target. We expect to publish additional guidance in the Autumn.

We have also developed a self-assessment tool with the GUM national support team which can be used to assess support needs within specific health communities. Further information will follow shortly via the RSU.

Please do not hesitate to contact your RSU account team if you have any questions.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely
Richard Gleave



Director of Performance