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## London BBC News 22 August

### London top as cardiac arrest survival rates compared



AP Fabrice Muamba

survived a cardiac arrest on the pitch - he later retired from football

London has the best cardiac arrest survival rate in the country, newly released figures suggest.

During 2011-12, the out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival rate in London was 31.7% - a figure that includes footballer Fabrice Muamba's case.

That compares with second placed East of England with 24.4% and a low of 10.8% in the South Central region.

It is the first time all ambulance services in England have measured the survival rate.

The figures were submitted to the Department of Health for collation.

#### **CARDIAC SURVIVAL RATES BY AMBULANCE SERVICE**

- London - 31.7%
- East of England - 24.7%
- North East - 24%
- South East Coast - 23.6%
- North West - 22.6%
- Yorkshire - 20.5%
- East Midlands - 20.4%

- South Western - 18.7%
- West Midlands - 18.3%
- Isle of Wight - 17.4%
- Great Western - 15.1%
- South Central - 10.8%

Source: Ambulance Clinical Quality Indicators

Erica Payet, 25, was one of those who survived cardiac arrest in London.

She was jogging along Bermondsey Street, Southwark, with her boyfriend on a Sunday afternoon in March when she collapsed and stopped breathing.

A passer-by called 999 and motorcycle paramedics were on the scene within five minutes to find bystanders already performing basic life support.

Ambulance staff attached defibrillator pads to Ms Payet and shocked her heart to restart it.

An ambulance crew took Ms Payet to St Thomas' Hospital for further treatment.

She regained consciousness after a week and spent a further two weeks in hospital before being discharged home with an implantable cardioverter defibrillator fitted.

Ms Payet, who is taking a masters degree at King's College University, had suffered no previous heart problems and there is no history of it in her family.

She said: "I was really lucky to be in a busy street with medical people around.



The cause of Erica Payet's cardiac arrest remains unknown

"Otherwise I might not be here. They brought me back."

The hospital ran tests, but the cause of her cardiac arrest is unknown.

London Ambulance Service medical director Fionna Moore said: "We are delighted with these figures.

"We've been tracking these figures since 1998 - and when we started the figure was about 4%.

"We've seen a year-on-year improvement, which is fantastic."

A spokesman for South Central Ambulance Service said: "SCAS is aware of the real challenges that exist for all English ambulance services in obtaining reliable data on survival rates from cardiac arrest after patients are discharged from hospital.

"This means it's hard to make direct performance comparisons until each ambulance service is able to get robust data back from all hospitals.

"SCAS is very focused on ensuring that we work together with our partners in all our emergency departments to continue to improve cardiac arrest survival rates."

## **Health Service Journal**

### **Only 50 admissions for 'Olympic family' during games**

16 August, 2012 | By [Ben Clover](#)

London's NHS saw only a minimal impact from the Olympic games, HSJ has discovered.

Provisional activity data indicates there were 400 attendances and only 50 admissions over the fortnight from members of the "Olympic family", defined as athletes, officials, journalists, VIPs and sponsors.

In an interview with HSJ, NHS London's 2012 programme director Hilary Ross said the overall level of activity, including spectators, had been within the normal range and might have been less than during the same period last year.

She told HSJ that trusts in the capital had been told to plan for the "equivalent of a mild winter" but the initial data suggested there had been no spike in activity.

Ms Ross said the evidence from other Olympics games had been that activity had not risen significantly.

She said there had been "significant anxiety" before the games about possible interruptions to pharmacy deliveries and access to services but these had been planned for and appropriate measures taken.

An NHS London control room in NHS London was staffed each day from 7am to 7pm with an executive director and three other managers. The executive director on duty was briefed twice a day and there was a daily conference call with the three designated Olympic hospitals, primary care trust clusters, the Health Protection Agency, London Ambulance Service and the Department of Health, which would in turn brief Downing Street's emergency response committee COBRA.

The strategic health authority was given £16.5m by the Department of Health to cover the games itself - £7.6m for extra ambulance services and £8.9m for planning, bid commitments and work with the three designated hospital trusts: Homerton University Hospital Trust, Barts Health Trust and University College London Hospitals Foundation Trust.

Homerton was the hospital set aside for treating the Olympic family, Barts and the London for spectators and UCLH for Olympic family members staying in the Olympic hotel in central London.

The London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games ran its own polyclinic in the Olympic Park which was staffed by NHS volunteer staff who had taken the time off work.

HSJ spoke to a volunteer at one of the other 13 Olympic sites staffed by NHS volunteers.

She said: “We had physios, GPs, A&E nurses and an even a professor of colorectal surgery working together. We calculated that if everyone had charged their day rate it would have cost about £500,000.”

NHS London’s work on the games included promoting the health legacy of the games as well as managing service interruption and extra activity.

“Go London” is the name of the health legacy project run by NHS London.

Ms Ross said work was ongoing to decide where these projects would sit when the strategic health authority was abolished next April.

### **Motorcycle paramedic hurt in crash in Hackney**

Written by [Celine Chaplin](#) [Hackney News](#) Aug 16, 2012



Paramedic motorcycle. Pic: freefoto

A motorcycle paramedic who was on his way to an emergency call was injured in a crash with another vehicle and ended up in hospital after being treated by colleagues.

The incident happened on Kingsland High Street on August 13. A London Ambulance Service spokesperson said: “One of our motorcycle responders on his way to an emergency call, was involved in a road traffic collision.”

An ambulance crew and an officer were sent to the scene. The paramedic was treated for chest and shoulder injuries and he was taken as a priority to the Royal London Hospital.

“We sent another ambulance crew to the original patient, a 71-year-old man, who had taken unwell. He was treated and taken as a priority to Homerton Hospital.”