

# URGENT CARE FACTS

## OVER THE LAST DECADE:

There have been a number of changes in the way urgent care is accessed and how hospitals and other services are working. The following are figures taken from national data in the most recent decade available to help us understand how these changes are occurring.

Demand is growing



A&E attendances increased by

**32%**

to 21.8 million a year

Ambulance calls increased by

**84%**

to 9.08 million a year

GP consultations increased by

**37%**

to 303.9 million a year

More people are admitted urgently



Emergency hospital admissions increased by

**30%**

to 5.4 million a year

Minor injuries and walk-in cases drove most of the increase in A&E use



These types of attendances increased by **96%** and they now make up more than **1/3** of attendances

Over the same time "traditional" A&E attendances went up by only **12%**

Many people in A&E need simple solutions that they could have got from their GP



**15%**

Of A&E attendances could have been dealt with by a GP in 24 hours according to research by the College of Emergency Medicine



# CHANGES IN POPULATION



Because we are living longer on average, our *population is ageing.*



But we are healthier for our age.

*In each decade of our lives we need less healthcare.*



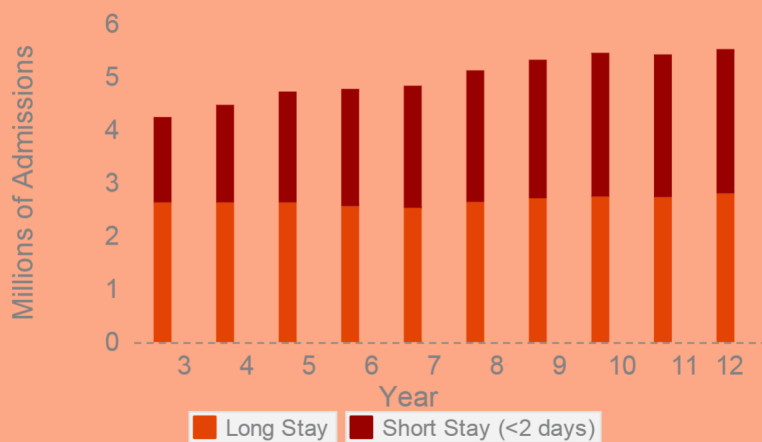
Between 2001 and 2011 our population grew by

**3.7 million (7.1%)**

This was mainly due to a combination of less people dying and migration.

*These changes are not large enough to explain the rise in demand for urgent care services that we have seen.*

# CHANGES IN HOSPITALS



Stay in Hospital After Emergency Admission

Between 2003-04 and 2013-14 the number of hospital beds open overnight fell by

**over 47,000 (26%)**

This was possible because the average length of a hospital stay fell for both elective and emergency patients

Bed occupancy rose from **85.9% to 87.5%**



"Bedblocking" delays in discharges have fallen

The number of bed days lost because of delays to discharges fell from 283,000 in Q3 of 2003/04 to 110,000 in Q3 of 2012/13

**A reduction of 61%**

