

Welcome to the NHS IMAS IST Advanced Flow Capacity and Demand Tool

Version 1.0 (November 2012)

Purpose of the model

The model helps you to:

- Understand your specialty **demand** and also the **variation** in demand
- Understand the current service
- Understand the **core capacity** you genuinely have available to see patients and the **ad hoc/flexible capacity** you rely on to deliver the service

The model will provide:

- An estimate of the capacity you need to meet your demand
- An estimate of the **backlog** that may need to be cleared to sustainably deliver national, and locally agreed, waiting times standards

**This is model is an excel workbook –
no special software is required to run this model**

Limitations of the model



- All models are theoretical guides
 - Any model is by definition a theoretical guide and should be used with other tools to help you to better understand, plan and manage your service.
- No model can give an absolute assurance of waiting times
 - The use of this model does not give any assurance of waiting times performance and should not be taken as a guarantee.
- What goes in...
 - The outputs of any model are only as good as the information entered.
- Also
 - Whole numbers are used where appropriate and may result in minor inaccuracies due to 'rounding'
 - Does not automatically assume growth (you will need to adjust the parameters in the model manually).

Important information

- To use this tool you will need to have a good understanding of basic demand and capacity theory and terminology. The IST can help with this, but there are many other sources of such information that can be utilised. This model in particular assumes a greater level of knowledge and understanding than other IST D&C models.
- The benefits of using this tool are maximised when the whole specialty team are involved in the discussions. As a minimum, the IST recommends that the following staff are engaged from the beginning of the process;
 - Clinical Director, Lead consultant, general manager, service manager, relevant administrative/booking staff, and designated information analyst who will support this work.

Click here to access a populated example model

[NHS IMAS IST Advanced Flow Model Example](#)

Or click here to access the blank model to complete for your Trust

[NHS IMAS IST Advanced Flow Capacity and Demand Model](#)

Contact us for support
or to provide feedback

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