

**Table 2 Time lag for psychiatric referral of patients for each department, King Fahad General Hospital, July–December 1994**

Department	Within 48 hours		3–7 days		8–15 days		> 15 days		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Extended emergency <sup>a</sup>	18	8.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	8.7
Medicine	22	10.7	41	19.9	15	7.3	15	7.3	93	45.1
Nephrology	0	–	11	5.3	4	1.9	4	1.9	19	9.2
Orthopaedics	1	0.5	6	2.9	7	3.4	13	6.3	27	13.1
Surgery	6	2.9	14	6.8	21	10.2	8	3.9	49	23.8
Total	47	22.8	72	35.0	47	22.8	40	19.4	206	100

<sup>a</sup>Patients are only kept a maximum of 48 hours.