

April 2016 ♦ Produced by the Prescribing Team

## Open Source GP Practice Prescribing Data in Scotland

On 12 April 2016, the ISD Prescribing Team at NHS National Services Scotland published a significant volume of its data, in line with Scottish Government Policy regarding transparency of information held by public bodies. The new publication of monthly prescribing activity data includes two aspects - a summary statistics dashboard and a data extract (.csv).

### Summary Statistics Dashboard

The Tableau based dashboard reports on cost and volume of prescriptions dispensed and paid in the community. Data is presented as a total at NHS Board level and does not drill down to individual drugs.

### Prescribing Data Extract File

The data extract is presented as downloadable text (.csv) file. It contains details of items dispensed in the community at prescribing location code level for General Practice data and aggregated by NHS Board for other prescriber location types. Items are described at BNF item description level.

The following supporting documents can be downloaded from the iSD website:

<http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Prescribing-and-Medicines/>

- [Summary overview](#) of the data to be published
- [Glossary of terms](#) including details of the data fields in the monthly file
- [Privacy risk assessment](#) of the data to be published

## Prescribing Management Group – Primary Care Prescribing Indicators 2016-17

### Background

Prescribing indicators use prescription data to provide a measure of prescribing activity in specified therapeutic areas and a comparison across the GP practices in NHS GGC. These act as a focus for the work of prescribing support team members within a practice supporting improvements in safe, quality and cost effective prescribing.

### Development

Prescribing indicators covering key therapeutic areas have been developed nationally by the Therapeutics Branch of the Scottish Government's Quality Unit. These indicators cover proton pump inhibitors, respiratory inhalers, hypnotics/anxiolytics, analgesics, antibiotics, antidiabetic drugs, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and antimicrobial wound management products.

Prescribing measures use prescription data that is linked to CHI to directly address patient safety issues, such as the prescribing of drug combinations that are known to increase the risk of adverse drug reactions. These complement the indicators.

NHS GGC prescribing indicators for 2016-17 also have additional indicators and measures that support work on local prescribing issues that are not sufficiently covered by the national therapeutic indicators and additional prescribing measures. These are detailed here:

The local prescribing indicators:	The local prescribing measures:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Antimuscarinics (overall prescribing rate)</li><li>- Antidepressants (overall prescribing rate)</li><li>- Blood glucose test strips (% preferred list)</li><li>- Respiratory inhalers (% preferred list and &gt; 14 ICS (incl combinations) per annum)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Antidepressants (long-term prescribing)</li><li>- Blood glucose test strips (cost per 50 strips)</li></ul>

## 2016-17 GGC Prescribing Indicators and Measures (March 2016)

	Indicators	Measures
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>	<b>Proton Pump Inhibitors:</b> DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	
<b>Cardiovascular</b>		<b>Oral anticoagulant:</b> number of patients prescribed an antiplatelet also prescribed an oral anticoagulant but without gastroprotection as percentage of all patients prescribed an oral anticoagulant (EFIPPS)
<b>Respiratory</b>	<b>Preferred list Inhalers:</b> Preferred list respiratory inhalers as a percentage of all respiratory inhalers (items)	<b>High Strength Corticosteroid Inhalers:</b> High Strength Corticosteroid Inhalers as a percentage of all corticosteroid inhalers (items)
	<b>Corticosteroid Inhalers (including combination inhalers):</b> number of patients prescribed more than 14 ICS inhalers in a year as a percentage of all patients prescribed ICS inhalers	Under 12 years prescribed <b>high strength corticosteroid inhalers</b> as a percentage of all children prescribed inhaled corticosteroids
	<b>Mucolytics:</b> DDDs per 100 weighted LS per day	<b>Short Acting Beta-Agonist (SABA) Inhalers:</b> number of patients prescribed more than 12 SABA inhalers in a year as a percentage of all patients prescribed SABAs
<b>CNS - psychotropic</b>	<b>Hypnotics and Anxiolytics:</b> DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Hypnotics and Anxiolytics</b> diazepam 2mg tablets as a percentage of all diazepam tablets (items)
		<b>Antipsychotic:</b> number of patients aged ≥75 years prescribed antipsychotics (EFIPPS) as percentage of all people aged ≥75 years
	<b>Antidepressants:</b> DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Antidepressants:</b> number of patients prescribed the same antidepressant long-term (>2 years) as a % of all patients prescribed antidepressants (excluding amitriptyline)
<b>CNS - analgesic</b>	<b>Opioid analgesics:</b> Strong opioids (including tramadol products) DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Opioid analgesics:</b> number of patients prescribed strong opioids long term (>2 years) as a percentage of all patients prescribed strong opioids
	<b>Opioid analgesics:</b> Step 2 Opioids (other than strong opioids) DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Opioid analgesics:</b> number of patients prescribed average daily dose of opioid equivalent to ≥ 120mg per day of morphine as a percentage of all patients prescribed step 2 and strong opioids
		<b>Opioid analgesics:</b> Morphine as a percentage of all morphine, oxycodone, fentanyl, tapentadol, and hydromorphone prescribed (DDDs)
	<b>Gabapentanoids:</b> pregabalin and gabapentin DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Gabapentanoids:</b> number of patients prescribed > 1 DDD per day of gabapentanoid as a percentage of all patients prescribed a gabapentanoids (6 months)

<b>Antimuscarinics/ Anticholinergics</b>	<b>Antimuscarinics:</b> Drugs for urinary frequency, enuresis, and incontinence(BNF 4.7.2 excluding duloxetine and mirabegron) DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>Anticholinergics:</b> number of patients aged $\geq 75$ dispensed > 10 items of strong or very strong anticholinergics (mARS 3&2) in 12 months as a percentage of people aged $\geq 75$ years
<b>Antibiotics</b>	<b>Antibiotics:</b> Total antibiotic script items per 1,000 LS per day	<b>Antibiotics:</b> number of patients >4 antibiotics per 1,000 LS per 100 days
	<b>Antibiotics:</b> 4C antibiotics script items per 1,000 LS per 100 days	<b>Antibiotics:</b> number of adult women prescribed a 3-day course of acute UTI antibiotics as a percentage of all adult women prescribed acute UTI antibiotics
<b>Drugs for Diabetes</b>	<b>Antidiabetic Drugs:</b> Metformin as percentage of all anti-diabetic drugs (DDDs)	<b>SMBG:</b> average cost per 50 blood glucose test strips (quantity)
	<b>SMBG:</b> Preferred list blood glucose test strips as a percentage of all blood glucose test strips (items)	<b>SMBG:</b> number of patients prescribed insulin not prescribed blood glucose test strips as a percentage of patients prescribed insulin
		<b>SMBG:</b> number of patients prescribed blood glucose test strips who are not prescribed treatments for diabetes (insulins and/or antidiabetic drugs) or are only prescribed metformin as a percentage of all patients prescribed blood glucose test strips
<b>Musculoskeletal</b>	<b>NSAIDs including Cox-2 inhibitors:</b> DDDs per 1,000 weighted LS per day	<b>NSAID</b> prescribing to patients aged $\geq 65$ years prescribed an ACE inhibitor/angiotensin receptor blocker and a diuretic (EFIPPS) as a percentage of people aged $\geq 65$ years
		<b>NSAID</b> prescribing to patients aged $\geq 75$ years without gastroprotection (EFIPPS) as a percentage of people aged $\geq 75$ years
	<b>NSAIDs including Cox-2 inhibitors:</b> Ibuprofen and naproxen as a percentage of all NSAIDs (DDDs)	<b>NSAID</b> prescribing to patients aged $\geq 65$ years prescribed an antiplatelet without gastroprotection (EFIPPS) as a percentage of people aged $\geq 65$ years
		<b>NSAID</b> prescription to patients prescribed an oral anticoagulant without gastroprotection (EFIPPS) as a percentage of patients prescribed an oral anticoagulant
<b>Wound Management</b>	<b>Antimicrobial Wound Products:</b> Antimicrobial wound products as percentage of total wound products (items)	
<b>New Medicines</b>		<b>Black triangle meds</b> as a percentage of all meds from BNF chapters 1-7 & 9-13 (items)
LS – List Size		EFIPPS - Effective Feedback to Improve Primary care Prescribing Safety Tx – Treated

28/7/16 two indicators were amended.

Respiratory: High dose corticosteroid inhalers to include Fostair

CNS Analgesics- Strong opioids to include tramadol products