

Scottish Multiple Sclerosis Register National Report 2016

Figures from January 2010 – December 2015

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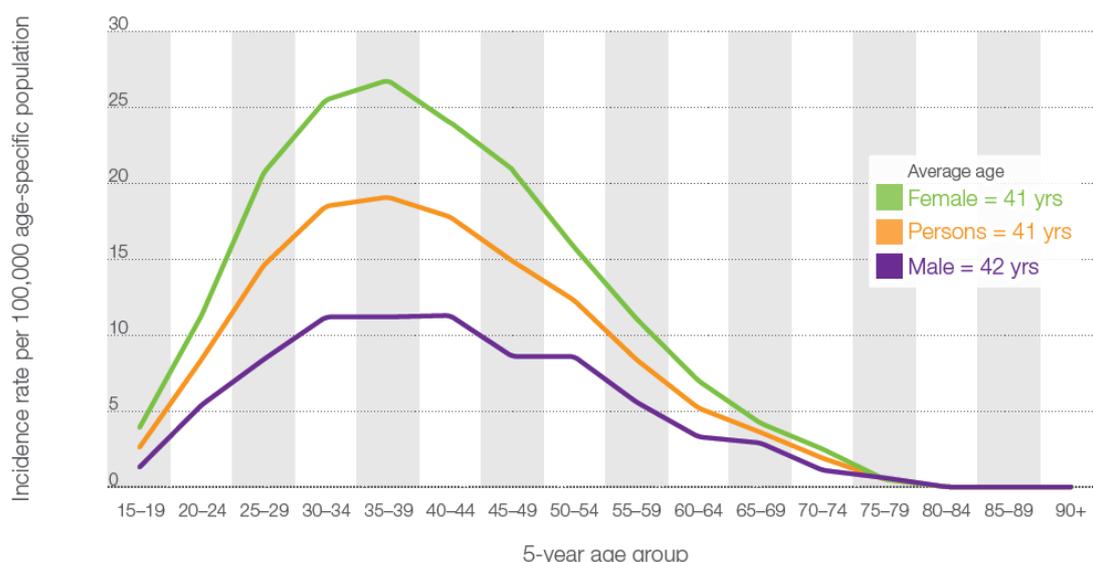
About this release

This is the sixth national report from the Scottish Multiple Sclerosis Register (SMSR) published by Information Services Division. The report provides information on all patients who were diagnosed by a General Neurologist as having a confirmed diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS) from January 2010 to December 2015.

Main Points

- In 2015, 530 new patients were added to the MS Register as having received a confirmed diagnosis of MS. This brings the total number of newly diagnosed people reported over the six year period to 2,731.
- As expected, the annual incidence shows that more than twice as many women as men were diagnosed with MS.

**Average annual age of patients newly diagnosed with MS;
January 2010 – December 2015**



- As expected, the average annual incidence of MS in the six most northern NHS Boards (Shetland, Orkney, Highland, Western Isles, Grampian & Tayside) is greater (at 11.4 per 100,000 population) than the average for the eight southern boards (at 8.1 per 100,000), emphasising that worldwide, more people who have MS are further away from the equator.

- Once a referral was received by the MS nurse specialist, contact within 10 days was achieved for 89% of the patients which is an improvement of 4% from 2014.
- 63% of newly diagnosed patients had contact with a MS nurse specialist within 10 days.

Background

The Scottish MS Register is a national Register within the Scottish Healthcare Audits programme at the Information Services Division (ISD) of NHS National Services Scotland. The aim is to improve healthcare for people living with MS in Scotland. Establishing the incidence and interpreting the implications of its demography allows us to facilitate service evaluation and drive health improvement. The data on which this report is produced are provided by General Neurologists and MS clinical teams via a **standard proforma** which incorporates the patient journey from referral to diagnosis, including referral to a MS Nurse Specialist.

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Further information can be found in the full report on the Registry website (<http://www.msr.scot.nhs.uk/>) or on the [ISD website](#).

The next update for this publication will be September 2017.
