

# Publication Summary



## Drug Treatment Waiting Times Information Framework Report

January – March 2011

28 June 2011

### About this Release

Data from the Drug Treatment Waiting Times Information Framework is published quarterly. This release includes quarterly data from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 at National, Health Board and Alcohol and Drug Action Team (ADAT) level. Information on the number of clients waiting, the time waited and types of treatment accessed is included.

### Key Points

Time waited from referral to assessment date offered

- In Jan-Mar 2011, approximately 94% of those offered an appointment for assessment were offered a date which fell within the reporting period and was within 4 weeks of referral (Table 1).
- Approximately 77% of those offered an appointment for assessment were offered a date which fell within the reporting period, Jan-Mar 2011, and which was within 14 days of referral (Table 1).
- Of those who were still waiting for an appointment for assessment, almost 2% had waited more than 26 weeks by the end of March 2011 (Table 2).

Time waited for first intervention

- In Jan-Mar 2011, approximately 96% of those offered an appointment for treatment were offered a date within 4 weeks of the date a care plan was agreed (Table 3).
- Over 90% of those offered an appointment for treatment were offered a date which fell within the reporting period, Jan-Mar 2011, and which was within 14 days of the date a care plan was agreed (Table 3).
- Of those who were still waiting for a treatment appointment at the end of the reporting period, almost 4% had waited more than 52 weeks by the end of March 2011 (Table 4).

## Background

It is important to be aware that there are some data quality issues that may impact on analysis. The number of services submitting data varies significantly from area to area and within areas across the data collection period. Additionally, ISD received only aggregate data from ADATs and it is therefore not possible to fully validate the data.

This is the last report from the old Drug Waiting times Framework. ISD has developed a new system which allows submission of data securely to ISD over the web, and was fully rolled out on 1st April 2011. The new database also has the facility for services to upload data extracted from local systems. One of the benefits of the new system is that it enables the addition of new data items to measure the full wait from referral to treatment for both drug and alcohol services. It also collects information on where clients *could not* or *did not* attend offered appointments and can calculate the time clients wait for treatment. The first reporting period for the new system will be April to June 2011 and this will be reported on in September 2011. This will be the first time Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times are published in Scotland. At this point trend data will no longer be published for Drug Treatment Waiting Times as it will not be comparable to data from the old system.

The national HEAT (Health improvement, Efficiency, Access, Treatment) target A11 expects that by March 2013, 90% of people who need help with their drug problem will wait no longer than three weeks for treatment.

## Contact

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

### About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

### Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

Further information on ISD's statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the [ISD website](#).