About this Release

This publication presents the total number of alcohol brief interventions delivered in Scotland in 2011/12 in accordance with the HEAT H4 target. Updated figures on the number of alcohol brief interventions delivered in 2010/11 are also presented in the publication.

Key Points

- The total number of alcohol brief interventions carried out in Scotland during 2011/12 was 97,830, exceeding the target of 61,081.
- The HEAT H4 target on the number of alcohol brief interventions delivered was met at the Scotland level, with all Health Boards exceeding their target for alcohol brief intervention delivery in 2011/12.
- The number of alcohol brief interventions carried out between 2008/09 and 2011/12 was 272,040, exceeding the cumulative target of 210,530.

Background

The HEAT H4 Alcohol Brief Interventions was initially a three-year target, with an extension for a fourth year in 2011/12. Data have been collected for the period 2008/09-2011/12 on the total number of alcohol brief interventions delivered in each Health Board.

The target is measured in three priority settings – primary care, accident & emergency and antenatal. The target states that Health Boards should carry out screenings in the three priority settings, using an appropriate screening tool, and followed by an alcohol brief intervention where required. Both the screening and the brief intervention (if applicable) are delivered in line with national guidance, which is based on SIGN 74 Guidelines1.

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.