

# Publication Summary



## National Naloxone Programme Scotland Monitoring Report – naloxone kits issued in 2011/12

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### About this Release

This is the first annual release of monitoring information from the National Naloxone Programme in Scotland. This report presents data on the number of 'take-home' naloxone kits issued as part of the national programme during 2011/12. Data are presented separately for kits issued in the community and kits issued by prisons, prior to prisoner release.

### Key Points

- There were 3,445 'take home' naloxone kits issued in Scotland in 2011/12 as part of the National Naloxone Programme. This includes kits issued in the community and kits issued by prisons.
- There were a total of 2,730 'take home' naloxone kits issued in the community in Scotland in 2011/12, as part of the National Naloxone Programme. By January 2012, 13 of 14 NHS boards were participating in the programme.
- The majority of kits issued in the community (2,370, or 87%), were issued to individuals at risk of opioid overdose, 295 (11%) were supplied to service workers, 60 (2%) to family and friends (with the recorded consent of the person at risk) and five (<1%) 'unknown' who they were supplied to.
- Of the total 2,730 kits issued in the community in 2011/12, 2,287 (84%) were reported to be a 'first' supply, 348 (13%) a 'repeat' supply and 95 (3%) 'unknown' if first or repeat supply. In 132 cases 'repeat' supply was due to use of the previous kit on a person at risk.
- In addition to the kits issued in the community, there were a total of 715 'take home' naloxone kits issued by prisons in Scotland in 2011/12, as part of the National Naloxone Programme, all to persons at risk of opioid overdose.
- Of the total 715 kits issued in prisons in 2011/12, 679 (95%) were reported to be a 'first' supply and 36 (5%) a 'repeat' supply. Where the supply was noted as a 'repeat' supply this could be following initial supply in the community, or it could be that the previous supply was made on release from a previous stay in prison (i.e. issued by a prison).
- When compared with kits supplied to persons at risk of opioid overdose in the community, recipients in prisons were more likely to be male and their age profile was 'relatively' younger.

## Background

The national naloxone monitoring analyses presented here provide vital evidence of the reach of the national 'take home' naloxone programme in Scotland. The Scottish Government commissioned the Information Services Division (ISD) of NHS National Services Scotland to report on the programme monitoring, using an agreed national dataset and a database set up at ISD.

Naloxone is an opioid antagonist which can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, providing more time for emergency services to arrive and treatment to be given. 'Take home' naloxone is administered intramuscularly. The supply of a 'take-home' kit follows training on how to administer it safely and quickly.

During April 2011, Greater Glasgow & Clyde and Highland NHS boards piloted the data collection processes for the community-based element of the National Naloxone Programme. Incremental rollout of 'take-home' naloxone, and associated data collection, continued throughout Scotland from April 2011.

The supply of 'take home' naloxone by prisons was introduced, incrementally, from February 2011 and by June 2011 all Scottish prisons were participating in the programme. From 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011 responsibility for prisoner health care transferred from the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) to the NHS.

## 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](#).