

Publication Summary



Drug-Related Hospital Statistics Scotland 2013

Publication date – 25 February 2014



About this Release

This publication reports on hospital discharges relating to drug misuse. It includes information on inpatients and day cases discharged from general acute hospitals in Scotland. In doing so, it tells us about some health impacts of drug misuse.

The Mental Health (Psychiatric) Hospital Activity Statistics publication has been delayed until June 2014 due to missing Mental Health Inpatient and Day Case (SMR04) discharge records. SMR04 data is also the source for the psychiatric discharges section of this report and so this section cannot be updated at this stage. ISD are working closely with NHS Boards to ensure submission of SMR04 discharge data. This report will be revised to include SMR04 data as soon as possible.

The 2013 European Standard Population (ESP2013) has been used to calculate the European Age-Sex Standardised Rates (EASRs) within this publication. The European Standard Population (ESP), which was first used in 1976, was revised in 2013. Previous reports used ESP1976 to calculate EASRs. Figures using ESP1976 and ESP2013 are not comparable. Therefore, findings from this publication are not comparable with previous ISD reports.

Key Points

- The European Age-Sex Standardised Rate (EASR) of general hospital discharges with a diagnosis of drug misuse has remained generally stable over the last five years (110 per 100,000 population in 2008/09; 107 per 100,000 population in 2012/13).
- In the period 2008/09 to 2012/13, the EASR for general hospital discharges with a diagnosis of drug misuse increased among older age groups (by 16% for 35-39 years and by 40% for 40 years and over) and decreased among younger age groups (by 28% for Under 20 year olds; by 31% for 20-24 year olds; by 37% for 25-29 year olds and by 16% for 30-34 year olds).
- In 2012/13, the majority of drug-related general hospital discharges were associated with opioids (67%), followed by multiple/other drugs (14%; includes hallucinogens,

volatile solvents, multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances), cannabinoids (11%) and cocaine (6%).

Background

Hospital activity data are collected across the NHS in Scotland and are based on nationally available information routinely drawn from hospital administrative systems across the country. The principal data sources are the SMR01 (acute inpatient and daycase) and SMR04 (psychiatric inpatient and daycase) returns.

SMR01 is an episode based patient record relating to all inpatient and day cases discharged from specialities other than mental health, maternity, neonatal and geriatric long stay specialities in NHS Scotland. A record is generated for each inpatient and day case episode, of which there are about 1,200,000 each year. Attendances at Accident and Emergency that do not result in an admission are not included. Each individual patient may have more than one stay and hence the number of people discharged within a year will be less than the total number of discharges. The SMR01 basic data set encompasses patient identification and demographic information, episode management information and general clinical information. Items such as waiting time for inpatient or day case admission and length of stay may be derived from the episode management information.

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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.

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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](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/) www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/