

Publication Summary



Alcohol Brief Interventions 2014/15

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About This Release

Alcohol Brief Interventions are consultations which aim to help individuals cut down their drinking to within sensible guidelines. A target was introduced by the Scottish Government in 2008/09 setting minimum numbers of interventions to be delivered by each NHS Board, this evolved into a standard in 2012/13. This Information Services Division publication presents the number of Alcohol Brief Interventions delivered in Scotland up to 2014/15 in accordance with the standard.

Key Points

- In 2014/15 there were 99,252 Alcohol Brief Interventions carried out in Scotland. This is 62% more than the 61,081 set out in the Scottish Government HEAT standard for 2014/15. Over seven years, 569,792 interventions have been delivered (45% more than the target/standard).
- All NHS Boards exceeded their target for delivery in 2014/15. At national level the expectation of delivery of 90% of the target in priority settings (GPs, Accident & Emergency, Antenatal) was also met, but at NHS Board level two NHS Boards (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Western Isles) delivered less than 90% in priority settings. Totalled across all seven years (2008/09 to 2014/15), all NHS Boards exceeded the target.
- The contribution of 'wider' settings (other than the three priority settings) has increased in the last three-year period from around 10,500 in 2012/13 to just under 26,000 in 2014/15, representing 26% of interventions recorded in the latest year. There is large variation between individual NHS Boards in distribution of delivery across settings.

Background

The [Scottish Government HEAT standard for Alcohol Brief Interventions](#) has two elements: it stipulates a minimum number of Alcohol Brief Interventions to be delivered in any setting,

and specifies that a minimum of 90% of those need to be delivered in 'priority' settings (Primary Care, Accident & Emergency and Antenatal settings).

In March 2009, the Scottish Government published [Changing Scotland's Relationship with Alcohol: A Framework for Action](#), setting out the strategic approach to tackling alcohol misuse in Scotland. A key element of the strategy included the setting of targets for delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions. The interventions contribute to the Scottish Government's overall objective of reducing alcohol-related harm by helping individuals to cut down their drinking to within sensible guidelines.

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Further Information

The Information Services Division has published Alcohol Brief Interventions statistics every year since 2009. To find out what other alcohol statistics we publish see:

<http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Drugs-and-Alcohol-Misuse/Alcohol/>.

We are a partner in the ScotPHO collaboration (together with NHS Health Scotland, the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, National Records of Scotland and Health Protection Scotland) and we maintain the Alcohol section on the ScotPHO website. More information about treatment of alcohol misuse can be found on the ScotPHO website:

<http://www.scotpho.org.uk/behaviour/alcohol/data/treatment-for-alcohol-misuse>.

Further information on Alcohol Brief Interventions in 2014/15 can be found in our [Alcohol Brief Interventions 2014/15 report](#).

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Official Statistics

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