

Alcohol Brief Interventions 2015/16

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About this release

This Information Services Division publication presents the number of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI) delivered in Scotland up to 2015/16. Alcohol Brief Interventions are consultations which aim to help individuals cut down their drinking to within sensible guidelines.

Main Points

- In 2015/16 there were 97,245 Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI) carried out in Scotland. This is 59% more than the 61,081 set out in the Local Delivery Plan (LDP) standard for 2015/16.
- At national level both the target for all ABI delivery and the expectation of delivery of 80% of the target in priority settings were met. All but one NHS Board (NHS Western Isles) exceeded their target for ABI delivery in 2015/16.
- There is large variation between individual NHS Boards in the distribution of ABI delivery across settings. There has been a three-fold increase in the number of ABIs delivered by 'wider' settings (other than priority settings) in the last three-year period.

Background

The [Scottish Government Local Delivery Plan \(LDP\) 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 80% of those need to be delivered in 'priority' settings (Primary Care, Accident & Emergency and Antenatal settings), as opposed to 'wider' settings (e.g. Criminal Justice and Community services such as Social Work). A target was introduced by the Scottish Government in 2008/09 setting minimum numbers of interventions to be delivered by each NHS Board, and this evolved into an LDP standard in 2012/13.

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.

Contact

Duncan McMaster

Information Analyst

duncanmcmaster@nhs.net

0141 282 2081

Victoria Elliott

Principal Information Analyst

victoria.elliott@nhs.net

0131 275 7446

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 2015/16 can be found in our [Alcohol Brief Interventions 2015/16 report](#).

ISD and 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. [Further information about our statistics](#).