Alcohol Brief Interventions 2016/17
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About this release

This Information Services Division publication presents the number of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABIs) delivered in Scotland up to 2016/17. ABIs 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.

Main Points

ABIs delivered in 2016/17

- In 2016/17 there were 86,560 ABIs delivered in Scotland. This is 42% more than the 61,081 set out in the Local Delivery Plan standard for 2016/17.
- 55,950 of the ABIs delivered were in priority settings (Primary Care, Accident & Emergency and Antenatal settings). This is 12 percentage points more than the required minimum standard for priority settings.
- Ten of the 14 NHS Boards met or exceeded their standard for delivery of all ABIs. Seven NHS Boards met or exceeded their standard for ABIs delivered in priority settings.
- The number of ABIs delivered in Scotland fell for the third consecutive year to 86,560 from a peak of 104,356 in 2013/14.
- The number of ABIs in ‘wider’ settings (settings other than priority settings) has increased for the fourth consecutive year from nearly 10,500 in 2012/13 to over 30,500 in 2016/17. ABIs delivered in wider settings account for 35% of all ABIs recorded in 2016/17.

Background

The Scottish Government Local Delivery Plan Standard for ABI has two elements: it stipulates a minimum number of ABIs to be delivered in any setting (61,081), and specifies that a minimum of 80% 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 ABI.
Further Information


Information Services Division 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](http://www.scotpho.org.uk/behaviour/alcohol/data/treatment-for-alcohol-misuse).

Further information on ABI in 2016/17 can be found in our ABI 2016/17 report.

The next update of this publication will be in June 2018.