

Publication Summary



Improving ethnic data collection for equality and diversity monitoring

April 2009 – March 2011

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About this Release

This release describes progress towards improving the completeness of ethnic group recording in acute hospital discharge records (SMR01) and new outpatient appointment records (SMR00). The two graphs below relate to the quarter January – March 2011.

Key Points

- For Scotland as a whole there have been substantial improvements in the recording of ethnic group. Completeness of recording has more than doubled over the last two years for both acute hospital discharges and new outpatients.
- Despite this improvement, the recording of ethnicity remains relatively low: a valid ethnic group code was recorded in only 51% of acute inpatient and day case records (SMR01) in the quarter ending March 2011 and only 33% of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00).
- In the last two quarters the figures for some Boards may have been affected by the implementation of the new NHS Patient Management System (PMS).

Figure 1: Percentage of discharge episode records (SMR01) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of Treatment; January- March 2011.

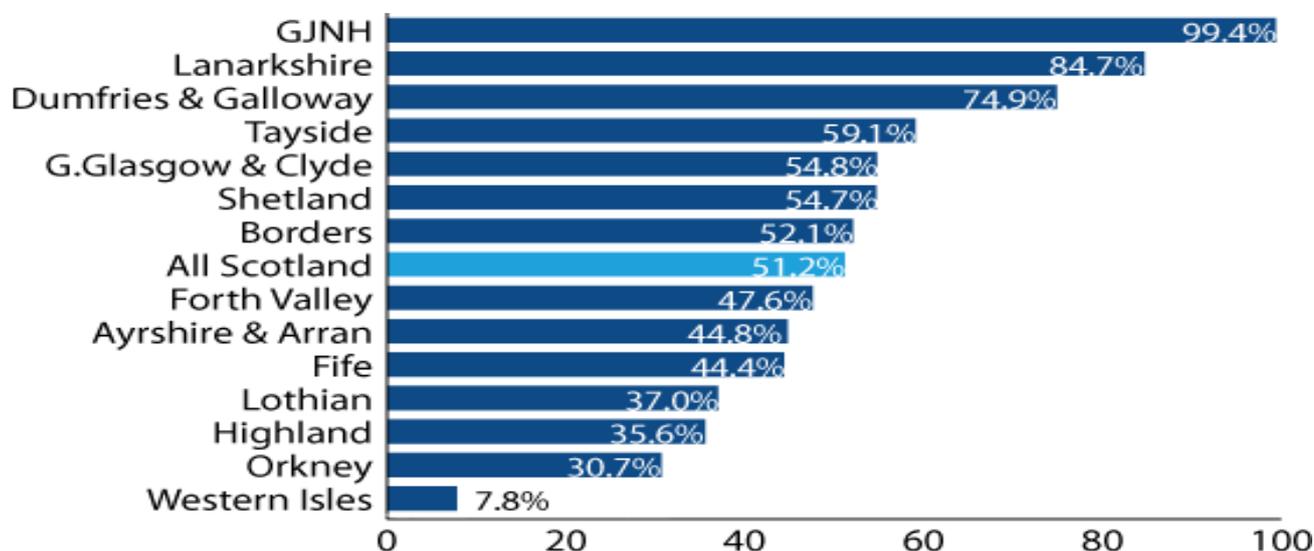
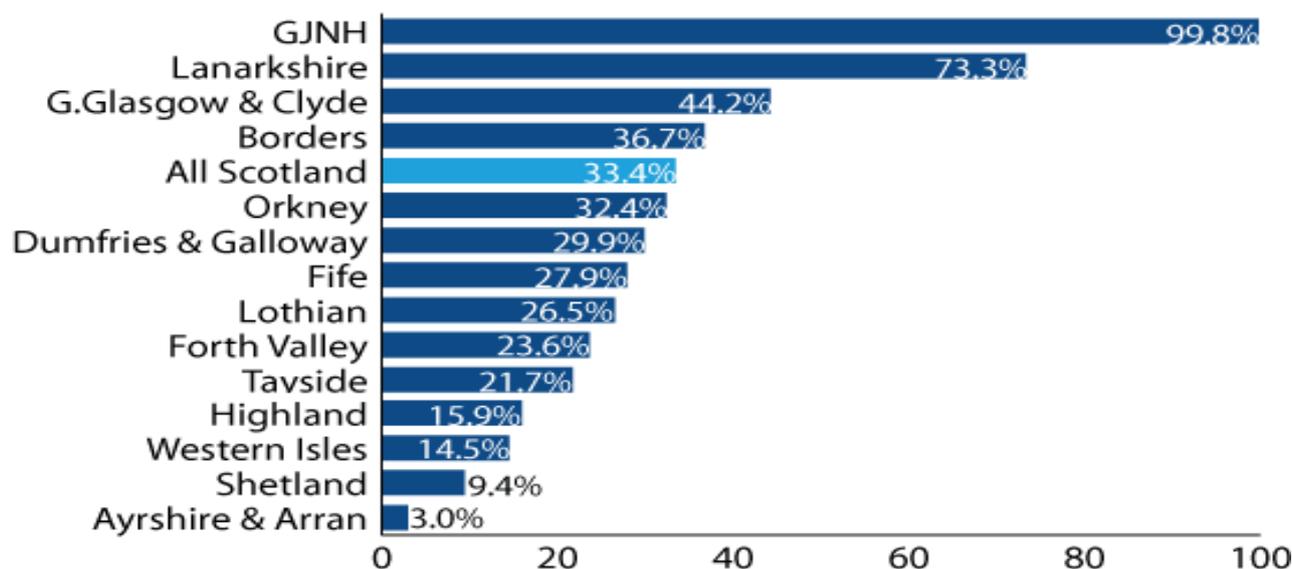


Figure 2: Percentage of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of Treatment; January- March 2011.



Background

The NHS Scotland Quality Strategy commits the NHS in Scotland to “understanding the needs of different communities, eliminating discrimination, reducing inequality, protecting human rights and building good relations by breaking down barriers that may be preventing people from accessing the care and services that they need”. The UK Government’s Equality Act requires public authorities to collect equality characteristics such as ethnicity to demonstrate that they are meeting the public sector equality duty.

Contact

Joan Jamieson

Equality and Diversity Information Programme Manager

Joan.jamieson@nhs.net

0141 282 2500

Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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