

Publication Summary



Improving ethnic data collection for equality and diversity monitoring

October 2009 – September 2011

Publication date – 28th February 2012

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 July – September 2011.

Key Points

- For Scotland as a whole there have been substantial improvements in the recording of ethnic group. Completeness of recording has reached almost two thirds over the last two years for acute hospital discharges and to over two-fifths for new outpatients.
- Despite this improvement, the recording of ethnicity remains relatively low: a valid ethnic group code was recorded in only 64% of acute inpatient and day case records (SMR01) in the quarter ending September 2011 and only 44% of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00).
- In the last two quarters the figures for some Boards (for example NHS Borders and NHS Ayrshire & Arran) 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; July- September 2011.

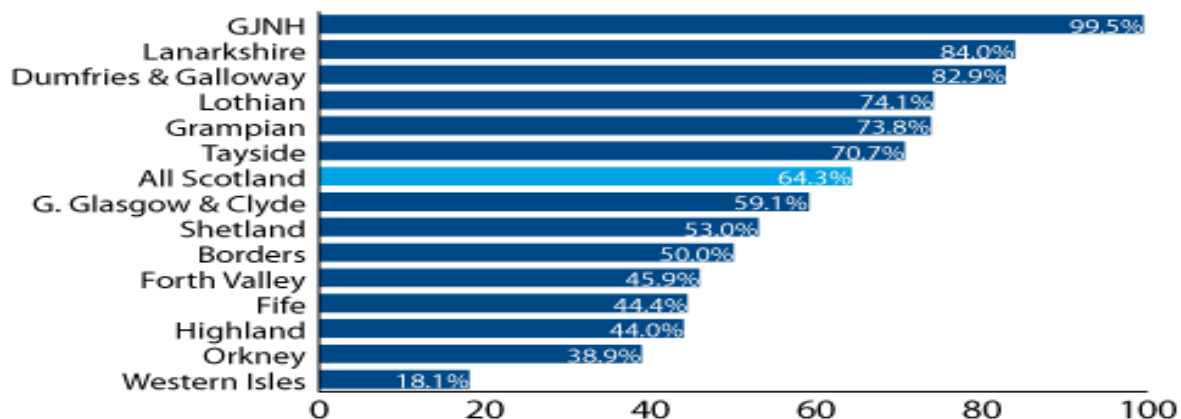
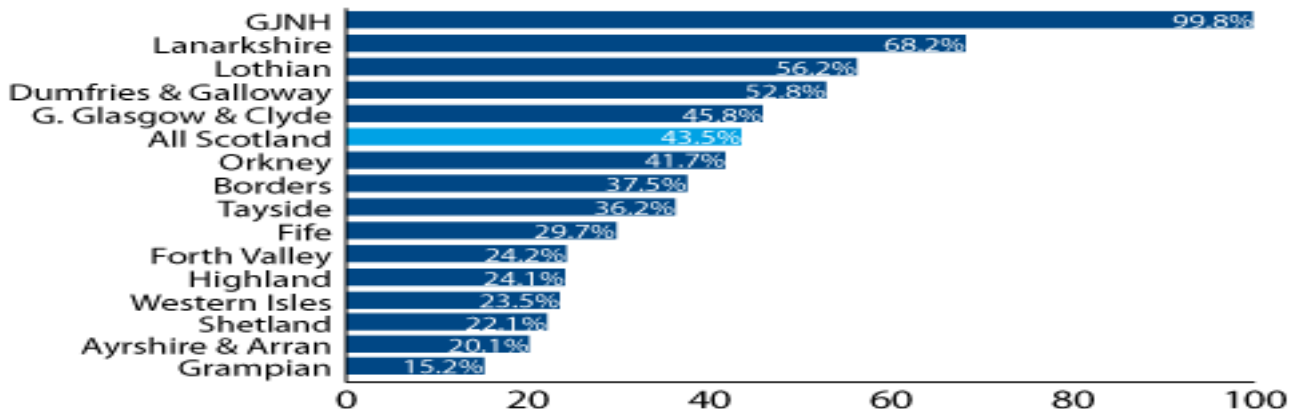


Figure 2: Percentage of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of Treatment; July- September 2011.



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.

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Further Information

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

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