About this Release

Annual publication of the Mental Health Benchmarking Toolkit comprising data up to 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2010. The toolkit provides information on a range of indicators to compare key aspects of the Adult Mental Health Service in Scotland.

Key Points

The indicators presented here have been chosen based on a wide range of stakeholder input to represent a balanced view of the Adult Mental Health Service in Scotland. It is recommended that individual indicators should not be approached in isolation but interpreted in the context of the overall balanced view of the service.

The key changes incorporated in this publication compared to the previous release of the toolkit are:

- addition of data on suicides within 30 days of discharge
- breakdown of relative risk of death for severe and enduring mentally ill patients by natural and un-natural deaths
- addition of data on defined daily doses to supplement the mental health drugs costs

Background

The main objective of the Adult Mental Health Benchmarking project is to provide a tool to aid in the improvement of the Mental Health Services in Scotland by using a range of comparative information to compare key aspects of performance, identify gaps, identify opportunities for improvement and monitor progress. The Mental Health Benchmarking Toolkit has been created to facilitate this aim.

The information contained in this publication is primarily adult focussed based on the General Psychiatry and Psychiatry of Old Age specialties, and excludes Child and
Adolescent Psychiatry, Learning Disabilities and Forensic Psychiatry services. However, for certain indicators data are not available at an adult only level and may pertain to the wider Mental Health service.

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**Further Information**

Further information on the Adult Mental Health Benchmarking Toolkit can be found in the Publication Report.

Further information on mental health benchmarking can be found on the National Benchmarking area of the ISD website.

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