About this Release

The Scottish National Tariff is a list of standard average prices created by distributing published costs information from the Costs Book (NHS Scotland costs data) across inpatient and day case hospital admissions data (NHS Scotland acute hospital activity).

The Tariff was developed to help set service level agreements between NHS boards thus enabling them to charge one another for patients who live in one NHS board but receive treatment in another; referred to as Cross Boundary Flow Activity.

There is wide variation in the cost of treatment depending on the complexity of each case. The Tariffs reflect the varying complexity through the use of Healthcare Resource Groups (HRGs) - standard groups of clinically similar treatments that use similar levels of healthcare resource.

The Tariff is updated annually.

Key Points

The 2013/14 tariff output has been calculated using the estimated costs from 2012/13, uplifted by 1%, rather than performing a full calculation. This is to allow the NHS Scotland Costing Group time to focus on developing a new patient level costing methodology, the Patient Level Information and Costing System (PLICS).

The 1% uplift for 2013/14 reflects the estimated increase in pay and prices for NHS Boards based on their funding uplift and anticipated efficiency savings.

Background

The national strategic direction of costing in NHS Scotland is steered by the NHS Scotland Costing Group whose remit is:
To provide long term strategic direction on all NHSScotland costing related work, evaluating options which meet stakeholder needs, and recommending a common costing methodology for NHSScotland

To improve understanding of costs and variation to support a number of projects or initiatives

To facilitate improved coordination of costing related work across NHSScotland (including ISD, Scottish Government, and NHS Boards).

Underpinning these objectives it is expected that the group will raise awareness of good quality costing data, particularly for Directors and Clinicians, and identify opportunities for increasing productivity and efficiency to support delivery of quality healthcare.

Contact
Michael Fleming
Principal Information Analyst
michael.fleming@nhs.net
0141 282 2252

Further Information
Further information can be found on the ISD website. Metadata and pre-release access information for this publication are available here.

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Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

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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. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

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