About this Release
The Quality & Outcomes Framework (QOF) measures a General Practice’s achievement against a set of evidence-based indicators. Payments are made to each General Practice on the basis of their achievements against those indicators.

This QOF publication contains information for 2012/13 on General Practices with a registered population in Scotland. These represent 95% of all practices in Scotland, and do not include various specialist practices such as practices offering only Out of Hours services and practices for patients with challenging behaviour. The publication includes details of practices’ participation in QOF, prevalence of selected health conditions, practices’ achievements against their selected indicators and the payments that are made to practices as a result of those achievements.

Key Points

- In 2012/13, 988 of the 996 GP practices with a registered population in Scotland took part in QOF.

- The average number of points achieved by GMS practices was 979 out of a maximum of 1000. This was a decrease from 981 in 2011/12.

- The largest increase in achievement for a group of clinical indicators between 2011/12 and 2012/13 was in the depression indicator group. This increased from 91.7% to 92.8%, a difference of 1.2 percentage points.

- The largest decrease in achievement for a group of clinical indicators between 2011/12 and 2012/13 was in the smoking indicator group. This decreased from 99.4% to 96.0%, a difference of 3.4 percentage points.

- The average QOF payment to a GMS practice for 2012/13 was £142,000. This was up from £138,900 in 2011/12.
Background
A new GMS contract was implemented throughout the United Kingdom on 1st April 2004. The new contract was introduced to support the ongoing development of primary care, and to give greater flexibility in how general practices deliver patient care, and are paid. A fundamental component of the new GMS contract is a system of financial incentives for delivering clinical and organisational quality - the Quality & Outcomes Framework (QOF).

The QOF measures a general practice's achievement against a scorecard of evidence-based indicators. These indicators span four domains: clinical, organisational, patient experience and additional services. In 2012/13, practices could score up to a maximum of 1,000 points across 148 indicators.

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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website

About ISD
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. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

Official Statistics
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.

Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/