Publication Summary

Findings from the 6th Balance of Care / Continuing Care Census
Census held 31 March 2011
Publication date – 28 June 2011

About this Release
This report presents findings from the 6th Balance of Care/Continuing Care census held on 31st March 2011. Previous censuses were held in September 2008, March and September 2009 and March and September 2010.

Key Points
- The number of NHS Continuing Health Care patients (Category A) has continued to decrease. In March 2011, 2099 patients were reported as Category A, this compares to 2285 in September 2010 (a fall of 8%) and 2495 in March 2010 (an overall fall of 16%). (Figure 1, Table 1)
- The 2099 patients reported as receiving NHS Continuing Health Care in March 2011, corresponds to a European age/sex standardised rate of 26 patients per 100 000 Scottish population. (Table 5)
- For those patients who do not meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but who have been in hospital for over one year and for whom no estimated date of discharge has been set (Category B), 496 patients were reported in March 2011, a rise of 26 patients (6%) from September 2010 and a rise of 82 patients (20%) from March 2010. This increase can in part be explained by (i) patients whose status has changed between censuses and (ii) patients who had previously been in hospital for less than a year but as at March 2011 their length of stay was over 1 year. (Figure 1, Table 1)

Background
The patients who were included in the census were:

Category A: Patients who are receiving NHS Continuing Health Care as a result of a decision made under the terms of the guidance referred to on page 1 of this report. Note that although NHS Continuing Health Care may be provided in a hospital ward it may also be provided on a contractual basis in a hospice or care home.
Category B: Patients who do not specifically meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but who have been in hospital for over one year and for whom no estimated date of discharge has been set.

**Figure 1 Patients reported to the Balance of Care / Continuing Care Census, September 2008 to March 2011**

![Graph showing the number of patients in Category A and Category B over the period September 2008 to March 2011.](image)

Dumfries & Galloway were unable to provide complete data for September 2008 due to local operational issues. The figure presented for September 2008 refers to ‘Scotland, excluding Dumfries & Galloway’.

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**Further Information**

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