About this Release
This report from the Information Services Division presents Heart Disease indicators from 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014. These indicators have been chosen as they have the potential to inform improvements in the quality of care and patient experience.

Key Points
- During the period covered by the publication, there were 9,823 emergency or urgent inpatient admissions to hospital for a heart attack. The average length of stay for these patients was nine days, which is similar to the previous year.
- There were 1,561 emergency readmissions to hospital within 30 days of discharge following an emergency or urgent admission for a heart attack (17.7%).
- There were 932 deaths within 30 days of discharge following an emergency or urgent admission for a heart attack (10.1%).

Background
This report provides information for a range of cardiovascular-related conditions and procedures in Scotland, including congestive heart failure, heart attacks, angioplasty and coronary artery bypass graft. The measures include mean and median length of stay, rate of emergency readmissions within 30 days of discharge from hospital, rate of mortality within 30 days of discharge from hospital and rate of in-hospital mortality.

The information contained in this publication is designed to be used as a resource by staff involved in the planning and delivery of services that treat these conditions in NHSScotland.

For 10 of the 18 indicators within this publication, the data points for all health boards show variation that is within expected boundaries relative to the Scottish average.
The other 8 indicators contain data points for some health boards that show variation outside the expected boundaries. These may be worthy of further consideration using local expert knowledge. Although there are some outliers, the majority of NHS Boards lie within the expected boundaries for these indicators.

The 8 indicators that show variation outside the expected boundaries relate to average length of stay (7 indicators) and emergency readmissions (1 indicator). These indicators do not take account of other conditions the patient may have, how severely ill they are or their personal circumstance. These may be factors that affect how long a patient must remain in hospital or why they need to be readmitted.

The indicators contained within this report are based on the measures recommended in the Heart Disease Improvement Programme National Overview, published in September 2011 by Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

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**Further Information**

The Information Services Division publish a wide range of heart disease statistics. You can find all our heart disease information at www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Heart-Disease.

The annual Heart Disease Statistics publication will be released by ISD in January 2016.

The next release of the Heart Disease Indicators publication will be in September 2016.