

Publication Summary

Assessment of SMR01 Data 2010-2011

Scotland Report

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About this Release

This quality assurance assessment was undertaken to ensure that SMR01 (General / Acute Inpatient and Day Case) data items are being recorded consistently and to a high standard throughout NHSScotland. The report contains the findings on the quality of selected SMR01 data items at both a Scotland level and for individual hospitals.

Key Points

- The DQA team have been assessing the quality of SMR01 data for over 20 years now and throughout this time the accuracy rate of Main Condition and Main Operation/Procedure has remained relatively stable at around 88% and 94% respectively and this has remained unchanged for this assessment.
- Of the 16 assessed data items held in the SMR01 record, nine (56%) were between 90% and 100% accurate.
- Thirteen of the 24 hospitals assessed did not achieve the recommended minimum 90% standard for accuracy rate of Main Condition.
- Since the last assessment in 2004-06, the accuracy rate of Other Conditions has increased by 10% points to 82% across Scotland. However, it was found that there are many codes omitted which ultimately affects the completeness of this data item.
- 27% of final discharge letters were not available in the case notes (or electronically) at the time of assessment. As a consequence they were not available for the assessment process or, presumably, the clinical coding process if required.
- Waiting List Date improved from 76% in 2004-06 to 84% in 2010-11 possibly showing that New Ways of Defining and Measuring Waiting Lists has had a positive effect on the recording accuracy.
- Admission/Transfer From and Discharge/Transfer To are both poorly recorded at 61% and 67% respectively.
- Ready for Discharge Date is an optional data item and it was found that this is rarely recorded in the casenotes or on the SMR01 by the hospitals assessed.

Background

The Data Quality Assurance (DQA) team is responsible for evaluating and ensuring that the Information Services Division's (ISD) Scottish Morbidity Record (SMR) datasets are accurate, consistent and comparable across time and between sources. Evaluation of quality of data in any information system involves a comparison of data against an agreed set of standards. This is conducted retrospectively in order to support the credibility of ISD's national patient based data.

The quality of national data is key to all those who use it both externally and internally at ISD as, without it, it would be impossible to interpret results with any accuracy or confidence. Without this assurance in the data it would undermine the use of information in a range of areas such as: service planning, epidemiological research, contributions to evidence based medicine, generation of healthcare costs and the support of quality improvement and performance management. In particular, SMR01 data contributes to HEAT targets.

ISD is aware that the accuracy rate of some data items has remained fairly stable over a long period of time therefore the main focus of this project is around the completeness of data. Particular groups of commonly recorded diagnoses (co-morbidities) and operations/procedures have been selected to show accuracy rate, sensitivity and completeness of the data.

For this SMR01 project the number of hospitals assessed was reduced from 39 (as in the 2004-06 SMR01 project) to 24 NHS acute hospitals in Scotland. A total of 4857 SMR01 episodes were assessed covering discharges from the period 2010 to 2011.

Contact

Margaret Mason
Data Quality Assurance Manager
margaretmason@nhs.net
0131 275 6528

Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Assessment of SMR01 Data 2010-2011 Scotland](#)

[Report](#)  on the [Data Quality Assurance website](#) 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. www.isdscotland.org/