

Publication Summary



Prescribing & Medicines: Minor Ailments Service (MAS)

Financial Year 2011/12

Publication date – 26 June 2012



About this Release

This release provides information on the number of registrations and treatments for the Minor Ailment Service during financial year 2011/12. It contains a monthly breakdown of the number of patients registered for the service and provides information on the number of items dispensed through MAS.

Key Points

- There is an increasing trend in registrations between April 2011 and March 2012, indicating that in the majority of months the number of new registrations is greater than the number of lapsed registrations.
- In Scotland, 99.8% of community pharmacies have patients registered for MAS at 31st March 2012.
- At 31st March 2012, 844,843 people were registered for the service. On average 15.2% of those registered with a GP in Scotland are also registered for MAS.
- Between April 2011 and March 2012 almost 1.9 million items were dispensed under MAS at a cost of £3.93 million.
- MAS accounted for 2.0% of all items dispensed in the community in Scotland, with paracetamol being the top item dispensed.

Background

The Minor Ailments Service (MAS) was introduced to allow community pharmacies to provide direct care for common conditions which require little or no medical intervention. MAS aims to support the provision of direct pharmaceutical care within the NHS by allowing eligible people to register with a community pharmacy for the consultation and treatment of common conditions. The pharmacist advises, treats or refers the person (or provides a combination of these actions) according to their needs. MAS went live across Scotland in July 2006, following the success of pilots in NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Tayside.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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