

Publication Summary



Prescribing & Medicines: Reimbursement and remuneration paid to dispensing contractors

Calendar and financial years 2007-2012

Publication date – 25 September 2012



About this Release

Dispensing contractors are contracted by NHS Scotland to provide a service in Scotland. This release updates what contractors are remunerated and reimbursed for this service. Information is shown by calendar and financial year up to June 2012.

Key Points

- The gross total payments to Scottish dispensing contractors decreased from £295 million in quarter 1 of 2011/12 to £281 million in quarter 1 of 2012/13.
- The net ingredient cost (NIC) paid to dispensing contractors for drug reimbursement has decreased, from £244 million in quarter 1 of 2011/12 to £230 million in quarter 1 of 2012/13. However, the cost for remuneration of services shows an increase of £1.3 million (2.6%) from £50.5 million in 2011/12 to £51.8 million in 2012/13.
- The gross ingredient cost (GIC) paid to dispensing contractors in quarter 1 of 2012/13 in respect of dispensing was £241 million. This is a decrease of £12.4 million (4.9%) when compared to quarter 1 2011/12.
- The number of prescription items for quarter 1 of 2012/13 was 24.0 million. This is an increase of 0.5 million (2.3%) compared to quarter 1 of 2011/12. The number of prescription items for quarter 1 of 2011/12 was 23.5 million. This was an increase of 0.7 million (3.2%) compared to quarter 1 of 2010/11.

Background

Dispensing contractors, i.e. community pharmacists, dispensing doctors and appliance suppliers, are contracted by NHS Scotland to provide a service to the populace of Scotland. To ensure drugs are available for dispensing when a patient arrives with a prescription, dispensing contractors purchase drugs in advance. Therefore, dispensing contractors receive two distinct types of payment; remuneration for the service they provide and reimbursement for the drugs they dispense.

Contact

Jack Vize

Senior Information Analyst

j.vize@nhs.net

0131 275 7153

Alison Pickering

Senior Information Analyst

alison.pickering@nhs.net

0131 275 7595

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](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/) www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/