

# Publication Summary



## Prescribing of Smoking Cessation Products in Scotland

Financial Years 2004/05 – 2013/14

Publication date – 30 September 2014



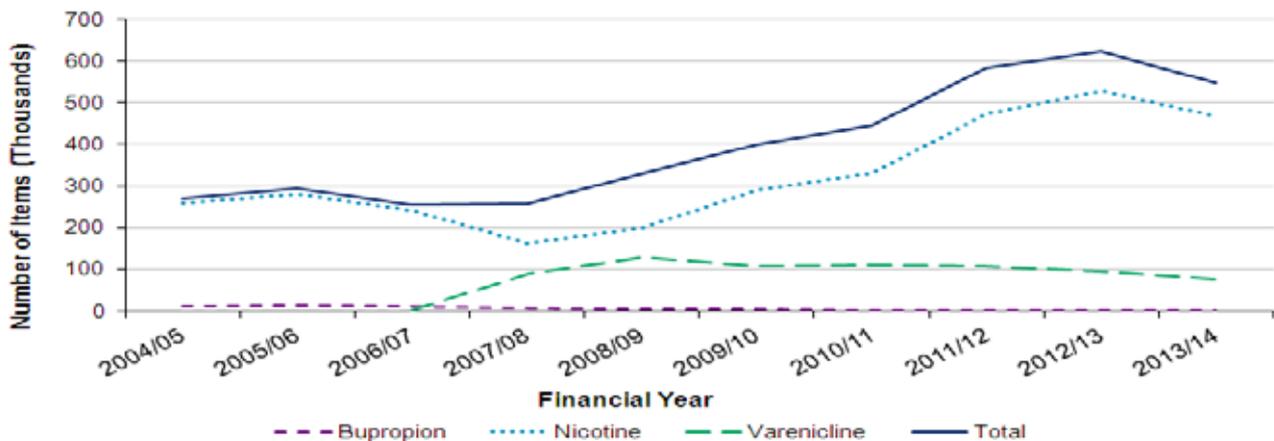
### About this Release

This release updates the prescribing of smoking cessation products in Scotland for financial years between 2004/05 and 2013/14. This includes the number of dispensed items, defined daily doses and gross ingredient cost. Data by NHS Board and annual trends are also shown.

### Key Points

- Dispensing of smoking cessation products decreased in 2013/14 for the first time since 2006/07. There were 76,942 (12.3%) fewer items than in 2012/13.
- Gross ingredient costs decreased in 2012/13 for the first time since 2006/07. This decrease continued in 2013/14 with a reduction of £2,153,157 (15.0%) from last year.
- The overall average cost per item continues to decrease and is now £22.35, down from £23.04 in 2012/13.
- NHS Ayrshire and Arran was the only NHS Board to show an increase (8.0%) in the number of smoking cessation product items dispensed in 2013/14.
- Nicotine continues to be the most prescribed product, making up 85.7% of all smoking cessation products in 2013/14.

## Number of Dispensed Items, by Product, for NHSScotland - 2004/05 to 2013/14



## Background

Information on drugs which are indicated for the treatment of smoking cessation, are obtained from NHS prescriptions prescribed in Scotland that are dispensed in Scotland or elsewhere in the United Kingdom. All these prescriptions are dispensed by community pharmacies, dispensing doctors, a small number of speciality appliance suppliers and stoma providers.

On the 29th August 2008, the Public Health Service element of the new [Community Pharmacy Contract](#) was introduced in Scotland. This involves a program of up to twelve weeks in which people can visit their local pharmacist and be supported in their attempt to stop smoking, which may include prescribing of Nicotine Replacement Therapy.

## Contact

**Katrina Reid**  
Information Analyst  
[k.reid1@nhs.net](mailto:k.reid1@nhs.net)  
0131 275 6951

**Ross Murdoch**  
Information Analyst  
[rmurdoch@nhs.net](mailto:rmurdoch@nhs.net)  
0131 275 6672

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