

Publication Summary



Prescribing of Smoking Cessation Products in Scotland

Financial Years 2005/06 – 2014/15

Publication date – 13 October 2015



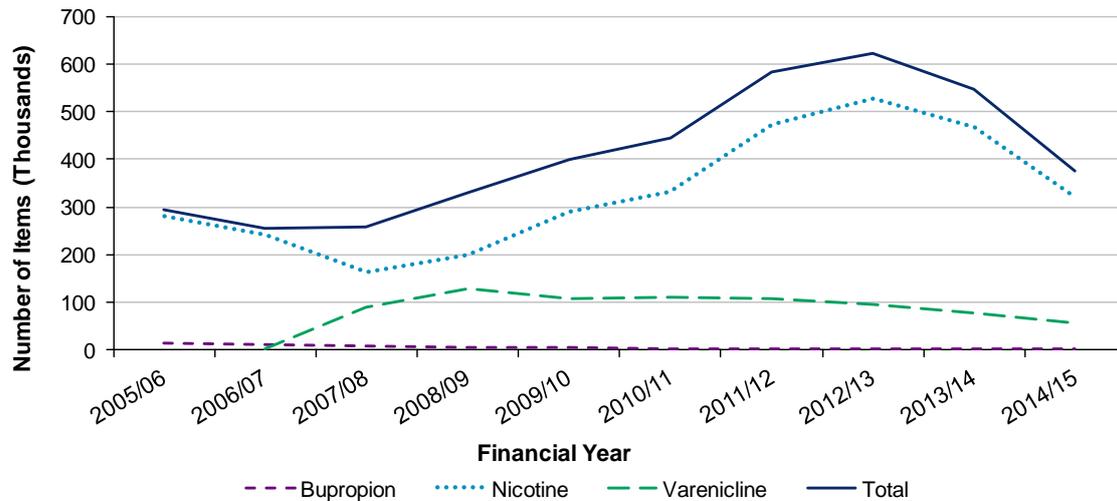
About this Release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides information on the prescribing of smoking cessation products in Scotland for years 2005/06 to 2014/15. This includes the number of dispensed items, defined daily doses (DDDs) and gross ingredient cost (GIC) of smoking cessation products at both Scotland and NHS Board level.

Key Points

- 2014/15 was the second consecutive year that dispensing of smoking cessation products decreased since 2006/07. There were 169,967 (31.1%) fewer dispensed items in 2014/15 compared to 2013/14.
- The total cost of smoking cessation items in 2014/15 was £8,057,216, which was a decrease of £4,169,659 (34.1%) from last year. This was the second consecutive year the total cost had decreased since it peaked in 2012/13.
- The overall average cost per item has decreased year on year since 2007, and reached its lowest point (£21.36) in the ten years covered in this report in 2014/15, down from £22.35 in the previous financial year.
- All boards showed a decrease in the number of dispensed items per 1,000 of the population for smoking cessation products dispensed in 2014/15 compared to 2013/14. The Scottish average decreased by 34.6% in this time period.
- For the first time six NHS Boards have seen the number of items per 1,000 of the population fall below the levels seen in 2008/09, the year in which smoking cessation services were introduced in Scottish community pharmacies.

Number of Dispensed Smoking Cessation Items, by substance, for NHSScotland - 2005/06 to 2014/15



Background

Smoking is one of the leading causes of preventable illness and premature death in Scotland and in previous years measures have been implemented to help reduce the impact of smoking on public health. One such measure was the introduction of the Public Health Service element of the new [Community Pharmacy Contract](#) in Scotland in 2008. All ISD Prescribing Team publications are currently undergoing review. It is proposed that this will be the final release of a specific smoking cessation publication however information contained within this report would be available from other sources. Further details of this publication review can be found on the [prescribing team web page](#).

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#), including the [Public Health NHS Smoking Cessation Services Report](#).

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/