About this Release

Annual updates of the ScotPHO website have been completed for the sections on alcohol, injuries, sexual health, high blood pressure, mental health, population estimates and forecasts, cancer, hepatitis C and oral health. These sections pull together previously available information and present summary data and statistics derived from published sources. Previously unpublished data are included on asthma, diabetes, COPD, epilepsy and multiple sclerosis. The key findings for the new data are discussed below.

Key Points

Over the last decade, there has been a downward trend in multiple sclerosis (MS) related hospital admissions and this continued in 2009/10. In financial year 2009/10 there were 2,145 hospital admissions where MS was the primary diagnosis, of which, 327 were the patient’s first admission. These figures compare with 2,196 and 327 for the previous year.

Updated data on hospital admissions for asthma show a continuation of previous trends, with no clear change in the number of hospital episodes or the annual number people being admitted to hospital with asthma for the first time.

Updated data on hospital admissions for epilepsy show a continuing downward trend in the number of emergency admissions in Scotland between 1998 and 2010 where epilepsy was the principal diagnosis.

During 2010 there were over 39,000 hospital discharges in Scotland where a diagnosis of diabetes was recorded. However this is likely to be a substantial under-estimate of the true number of admissions due to diabetes.

In 2009/10 there were over 2000 hospital discharges with diabetic ketoacidosis, a serious complication of diabetes.

Diabetes was recorded as contributing to over 4000 deaths in Scotland in 2010.
**COPD** is a chronic lung disease that causes cough and breathlessness. Updated data on the number of people being admitted to hospital for the first time with COPD show a continuation of recent constant trends.

Mortality from **COPD** continues to decrease in men and increase rate in women. The increase for women may be because smoking rates have taken longer to fall among women than men.

**Background**

The ScotPHO website contains comprehensive information on a wide range of topics including behaviour, health, well being and disease and clinical risk factors. Along with summary data and statistics, the website provides background information, interpretation, policy notes, commentaries on data sources, references and links to further information.

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found on the [ScotPHO website](https://www.scotpho.org) or on the [ISD website](http://www.isdscotland.org).

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**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.

**About ScotPHO**

The Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) collaboration is led by ISD Scotland and NHS Health Scotland, and includes the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, National Records of Scotland and Health Protection Scotland. Our aim is to make public health information more accessible and usable to improve health and reduce inequalities in Scotland. Metadata and pre-release access information for this publication is available [here](https://www.isdscotland.org).