About this Release
The following sections on the ScotPHO website have been updated: population estimates and forecasts, asthma, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, CHD, stroke, injuries, hepatitis C, mental health and social environment. The updates include collating previously available information and presenting summary data and statistics derived from published sources. Previously unpublished hospital data are included on epilepsy.

We have also added a new page in our ethnicity section which explores how routine hospital data can be used to look at ethnicity and health.

We have added summary pages on Scotland's excess mortality (often known as “the Glasgow effect”), Vitamin D and Assets-based approaches to health. These pages contain summaries of the evidence and links to sources of further information.

Key Points

Epilepsy
Rates of first hospital admission for epilepsy have declined in Scotland over the past 9 years from 37.7 per 100,000 persons to 30.4 per 100,000 persons. This decline is seen for both males and females.

Ethnicity
The usefulness of increasing completeness of ethnicity information in hospital records has been demonstrated by a ScotPHO pilot project looking at first admissions for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD). The pilot showed that in comparison with census linked data, routinely collected data have validity in some NHS Board areas. These data can raise some interesting questions about variations in admissions rates. NHS Boards may wish to
use such information to further investigate local ethnic inequalities in health and to prioritise health improvement work.

**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](#).