

# Scottish Public Health Observatory quarterly update

September 2016

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## About this release

The Scottish Public Health Observatory has updated a number of topic areas on its website today. Of these, allergic conditions and the treatment of drug misuse provide previously unpublished data. A new topic area reviewing the most recently published data on kidney disease in Scotland is also included.

## Main points

### Allergic conditions

- Asthma continues to be the most common allergic condition accounting for around 75% (6,484) of all allergy related hospital admissions.
- There has been a steady increase in the number of hospital admissions due to allergic rhinitis, increasing from 264 in 2008/09 to 420 in 2015/16.

### Drugs - Treatment for drug misuse - Prescribing for Opioid Dependency

- For the fifth successive year there has been a decrease in the number of Opioid Replacement Therapy drug items (including methadone) dispensed.
- From 2010/11 to 2015/16, the cost of methadone dispensing decreased from £6,382 to £4,972 per 1,000 adult population.

### Kidney disease

- Recently published data shows that chronic kidney disease affects around 177,000 Scots; nearly 4,800 depend on renal replacement therapies such as dialysis or kidney transplant.

## Background

The [Scottish Public Health Observatory](#) collaboration is led by the Information Services Division 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, to promote the reduction in inequalities and to inform health improvement in Scotland.

## New topic area to ScotPHO

Kidney disease is a new topic area for ScoPHO. In this section, we review the most recently published data on kidney disease in Scotland. It includes a guide to available data sources in Scotland together with links to relevant reports. The guide was written by experts from the University of Aberdeen and was produced in collaboration with the Scottish Renal Registry at the Information Services Division. We hope it will be a useful and accessible guide to support needs assessment and service planning.

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## Find out more

All the topic areas updated today are available on the [ScotPHO website](#).

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## ISD and Official Stats

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. [Find out more about our statistics](#).