

Publication Summary



Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratios

Quarterly HSMR Release

27th November 2012

About this Release

Since December 2009 Information Services Division (ISD) has produced quarterly hospital standardised mortality ratios (HSMR) for all Scottish hospitals participating in the Scottish Patient Safety Programme (SPSP). The intention is to allow monitoring of time trends in mortality for Scotland and at individual hospital level. The aim of the Scottish Patient Safety Programme is to reduce hospital mortality by 15% by December 2012. This will then be extended to a 20% reduction by December 2015.

Key Points

- These data show that case mix adjusted hospital mortality across Scotland is reducing over time.
- The Scottish HSMR for Apr-Jun 2012 is currently 0.88; cumulatively, there has been a 11.4% reduction in hospital mortality since October 2007.
- HSMR is used as a trigger for further investigations. However, a single high quarterly HSMR figure is not sufficient evidence of an individual hospital providing poor quality of care or unsafe services.

Quarterly Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratios in Scotland Apr-June 2012

Scotland					
Quarter	Observed deaths (30 days)	Predicted deaths (30 days)	Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR)	Number of patients	Crude Mortality Rate (%)
Oct-Dec 2006	6792	6711	1.01	219199	3.1
Jan-Mar 2007	7249	6979	1.04	220545	3.3
Apr-Jun 2007	6431	6570	0.98	218330	2.9
Jul-Sep 2007	6186	6398	0.97	215257	2.9
Oct-Dec 2007	6910	6888	1.00	219981	3.1
Jan-Mar 2008	7223	7030	1.03	223416	3.2
Apr-Jun 2008	6450	6829	0.94	224698	2.9
Jul-Sep 2008	6368	6660	0.96	221994	2.9
Oct-Dec 2008	7469	7324	1.02	226106	3.3
Jan-Mar 2009	7058	7132	0.99	231714	3.0
Apr-Jun 2009	6391	6832	0.94	226419	2.8
Jul-Sep 2009	6193	6655	0.93	224332	2.8
Oct-Dec 2009	7078	7125	0.99	227335	3.1
Jan-Mar 2010	7048	7163	0.98	227054	3.1
Apr-Jun 2010	6381	6936	0.92	226392	2.8
Jul-Sep 2010	6238	6937	0.90	224387	2.8
Oct-Dec 2010	7046	7276	0.97	219540	3.2
Jan-Mar 2011	6761	7279	0.93	227504	3.0
Apr-Jun 2011	6310	7185	0.88	222201	2.8
Jul-Sep 2011	6165	7005	0.88	224493	2.7
Oct-Dec 2011	6647	7295	0.91	226401	2.9
Jan-Mar 2012	6685	7534	0.89	232567	2.9
Apr-Jun 2012 ^P	6222	7057	0.88	217018	2.9

Source: ISD Scotland (SMR01) linked dataset. Reflects the completeness of SMR01 submissions to ISD for individual hospitals as of 29th September 2012. NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Grampian are in the process of implementing new Patient Administration Systems and this has temporarily delayed their central data submissions. P=Provisional Data.

Background

The HSMR is based on all acute inpatient and day case patients admitted to all specialties (medical and surgical). The calculation takes account of patients who died within 30 days from admission; that is, it includes deaths that occurred in the community (out of hospital deaths) as well as those occurring in-hospital.

Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratio (HSMR) = Observed Deaths / Predicted Deaths. The Scottish HSMR for Apr-Jun 2012 is currently 0.88, a decrease of 12% from the baseline (October 2006 - September 2007) value of 1.00. Regression analysis for Scotland indicates that by June 2012, cumulatively, there had been a 11.4% reduction in hospital mortality since October 2007.

As part of the production cycle for this publication, a systematic review of the data has been carried out by representatives from Information Services Division and Healthcare Improvement Scotland. The purpose of the review is to identify potential patterns in the data and to initiate a dialogue with boards where appropriate. As the emphasis remains on local ownership of the data, a [guidance document](#) has been prepared jointly by Healthcare Improvement Scotland, the Information Services Division, Scottish Patient Safety Programme, and the Quality Improvement Hub. This document which is a working draft has been published by Healthcare Improvement Scotland on their website and is also being made available by Information Services alongside the statistical information.

Contact

Richard Dobbie

Principal Information Analyst

Richard.Dobbie@nhs.net

0131 275 7732

Alan Finlayson

Service Manager

Alan.Finlayson@nhs.net

0131 275 6271

Michael Webster

Information Analyst

Michael.Webster@nhs.net

0131 275 6881

Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Quality Improvement 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](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/) www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/