About this Release

This is the sixth publication of the termination of pregnancy Key Clinical Indicator (KCI) which monitors the percentage of termination of pregnancy procedures taking place at less than nine completed weeks (i.e. 63 days) gestation per NHS board.

Key Points

- The proportion of early terminations has been rising steadily in more recent years, with 65.2% of all terminations performed at less than 9 completed weeks gestation in 2010. This figure has risen by 3.0 percentage points from 2009 making it the highest it has been for the past decade.
- In 2010 there was a 7.5 percentage point difference between access to early abortions by the least deprived category and the most deprived category which suggests that deprivation continues to have an influence on whether women access services rapidly.

Background

*Respect and Responsibility: Strategy and Action Plan for Improving Sexual Health* highlighted the need to monitor sexual health service development both nationally and at an NHS board level. A set of Key Clinical Indicators (KCIs) have been developed for this purpose and are managed/reported by the Data Augmentation for Sexual Health (DASH) project at ISD.

The indicators helped to inform the development of the NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (now known as Healthcare Improvement Scotland) Sexual Health Clinical Standards and NHS boards are encouraged to utilise the KCI reports to monitor their progress against these standards.
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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD 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.

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