About this Release
This is the sixth publication of the sterilisation Key Clinical Indicator (KCI) which monitors the number of female sterilisation procedures and male vasectomies performed by each NHS health board per women and men of reproductive age and the waiting times for these procedures.

As with the previous two years of reports, it has not been possible to including the waiting times information for these procedures which is due to the transition and subsequent under recording of these data from SMR to New Ways.

Key Points
- 9.6 women per 10,000 (aged 15-49) had a sterilisation procedure in 2010, compared with 10.9 in 2009.
- A total of 5,367 vasectomies were carried out in 2010 across multiple settings in Scotland. This compares with 5,974 vasectomies performed in 2009.
- Of the total number of vasectomies performed in 2010, 2,222 were performed as inpatient/day case procedures.

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.
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