

Another successful year for primary care teams

The data presented below represents another year of hard work by primary care teams nationally; successfully managing people with diabetes and their associated cardiovascular risk. This is now the third year of the publication of QOF data, and it continues to show how successful the primary care community can be when they pursue evidence-based targets, thus, justifying the Governments' investment in incentives to reward high performance.

There is a steady and consistent increase in the documentation of both hypertension and diabetes, whereas both coronary heart disease and stroke seem to have stabilised, perhaps representing better management of these conditions. The database associated with the QOF

data continues to supply interesting prevalence rates for diabetes within the four nations making up the NHS, which have also stayed consistent, with Wales maintaining the highest incidence of diabetes.

The QOF percentage achievement points in diabetes care and the other associated cardiovascular risk illnesses do not reflect a great deal of difference from the 05/06 year. Those working with patients with diabetes will accept that these figures have probably plateaued, while representing very significant and consistent achievements by teams. Another round of QOF and contract negotiations scheduled for 2008 may present new challenges for teams, but until then they can be pleased with another high achieving year! ■

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Table 1. UK disease prevalence statistics as published in the QOF for 2004/5, 2005/6 and 2006/7. (all data in %)

Disease Area	England			Wales			Northern Ireland			Scotland		
	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07
Coronary heart disease	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.5
Stroke	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.0
Hypertension	11.3	12.0	12.5	12.5	13.4	14.3	10.0	11.1	11.7	11.7	12.4	12.5
Diabetes	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.2	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.5

Sources: The Information Centre (2006a); Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (2006a); NHS National Services Scotland (2006); Kenny (2005); NHS Wales (2006a); Welsh Assembly Government, (2007a); Welsh Assembly Government (2007b); The Information Centre (2007); Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (2007); NHS National Services Scotland (2007)

Table 2. QOF points achieved for 2004/5, 2005/6 and 2006/7.

	England			Wales			Northern Ireland			Scotland		
	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07
Total QOF points (%)	91.3	96.2	95.5	90.2	95.6	94.9	94.2	97.9	97.8	92.5	97.7	97.1
Average QOF points/practice	958.7	1010.5	954.5	947.1	1003.3	948.6	989.0	1027.6	977.8	971.3	1026.2	971.2
Diabetes points achieved (%)	93.2	97.4	97.5	93.3	97.5	97.5	95.7	98.3	98.8	96.0	98.5	98.9
CHD points achieved (%)	95.3	98.3	98.4	93.4*	97.3*	98.1	97.0	99.2	99.5	95.0	98.7	99.0
Hypertension points achieved (%)	94.4	98.1	98.3	93.7	97.7	97.9	97.9	99.6	99.5	94.8	99.0	99.0
Stroke and TIA points achieved (%)	92.0	97.2	97.3	91.2	96.8	97.2	95.9	99.1	99.2	94.3	98.9	98.6

Sources: The Information Centre (2006b); NHS Wales (2006b); Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (2006b); NHS National Services Scotland (2006); Welsh Assembly Government, (2007); The Information Centre (2007); Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (2007); NHS National Services Scotland (2007);* includes left ventricular dysfunction