

Statement of Administrative Sources

Annex A: Information on administrative source

PCA – Prescription Cost Analysis (from NHS Prescription Services)

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Enquiries	Please contact the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) Contact centre Telephone: 0845 300 6016 and email: enquiries@hscic.gov.uk
Name of Administrative Source	PCA – Prescription Cost Analysis (from NHS Prescription Services)
Section 1: Collection	<p><i>Please give a short explanation of the processes through which the system's underlying 'raw data' are captured.</i></p> <p>When a pharmacist, appliance contractor or doctor dispenses a prescription they return the form to Prescription Services at the NHS Business Services Authority. NHS Prescription Services price the prescription and reimburse the dispenser. Summary information from this process is made available to the NHS and the HSCIC.</p> <p>PCA data is at National Level only and is based on a full analysis of all prescriptions dispensed in the community i.e. by community pharmacists and appliance contractors, dispensing doctors, and prescriptions submitted by prescribing doctors for items personally administered in England. Also included are prescriptions written in Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man but dispensed in England. The data do not cover drugs dispensed in hospitals, including mental health trusts, or private prescriptions. Prescribers are GPs, hospital doctors, dentists and non-medical prescribers such as nurses and pharmacists.</p>
Section 2: Quality assurance	<p><i>Please give details of any arrangements for auditing the quality of administrative data from this system which is used for statistical purposes</i></p> <p>NHS Prescription Services have stated that due to the complex and manual processes involved there may be inaccuracies in capturing prescription information which are then reflected in the data. Internal quality assurance processes exist and currently the prescription processing activity is internally audited to 98.5 per cent accuracy (i.e. at least 98.5 per cent of prescriptions are recorded accurately).</p>
Section 3: Application	<p><i>Please give a description of each of the main applications/uses to which the administrative or management data are put before they are transformed into official statistics</i></p> <p>Re-imburement of dispensers</p>
Section 4: Access and Dissemination	<p><i>Please provide a summary of the arrangements put in place for sharing and disseminating the administrative/management data during the period before they are converted into Official Statistics</i></p> <p>See below:</p>

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	<p>HSCIC Statistical Governance policy available from http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/calendar (then click on “Statistical Governance Policy”)</p> <p>HSCIC Freedom of Information process available from http://www.hscic.gov.uk/foi (then click on “Freedom of Information Process”)</p> <p>Link to National Statistician’s Guidance: Use of Administrative or Management Information http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/guidance/index.html</p> <p>HSCIC Data Access and Information Sharing Policy available at http://www.hscic.gov.uk/media/1450/Data-access-information-sharing-policy/pdf/DAIS_Policy_Final_4.0_updated.pdf</p> <p>HSCIC Information Governance Legal Compliance Policy available at http://www.hscic.gov.uk/media/1451/Information-governance-legal-compliance/pdf/NHSIC_Information_Governance_Legal_Compliance_Policy.pdf</p>	
	Specify if shared Inside/Outside The HSCIC	NHS Prescription Services make extracts of prescribing data available to Department of Health (DH) and different parts of the NHS on a regular basis for management purposes. They will also answer specific requests from the public. Some data is made available to the public through their website. This can take place before our publication.
	Range	If requested we would make part-year data available to members of the NHS and to DH. We also make such data available to others. This can take place before our publication subject to the restriction that data for the final quarter of the year or for the whole year would not be made available until after the publication.
	Nature	Data at national level is freely available (although see above).
	Timing	We do not release data for the final quarter of the year until after publication of the National Statistic produced from these figures.
Section 5: Non-statistical publication	<p><i>Please provide a summary of any exceptional arrangements put in place for placing the administrative/management data in the public domain during the period before they are converted into official statistics. If none, please state None.</i></p> <p>See above.</p>	

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	Better Care Better Value metrics - have agreed that the data provided for this does not undermine other publications and so can be published prior to related official statistics
Section 6: Statistical publication	<p><i>Please provide a list of each of the ‘Official’ or ‘National’ statistics series derived from this system.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription Cost Analysis, England • Prescriptions Dispensed in the Community, England • Prescribing by Dentists, England <p>HSCIC publications calendar: http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/calendar</p>
Section 7: Synergies	<p><i>Please provide a mapping which explains the relationship between any public manifestations of the administrative/management data, and any subsequent statistical releases or publications.</i></p> <p>NHS Prescription Services make their data available to the NHS and publish some data to the public on their website substantially before we release our publications. The web site data is at a very high level of aggregation (total number of items) but is published for each practice with the name of the practice. PCA data is only available at national level.</p>
Section 8: Security/Data Protection arrangements	<p><i>Please explain any additional arrangements for ensuring the security of statistical processes that draw on administrative data other than those listed below eg: any data sharing agreements, relevant legislation.</i></p> <p>Relevant IG policies:</p> <p>HSCIC Statistical Governance policy available from http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/calendar (then click on “Statistical Governance Policy”)</p> <p>HSCIC Small numbers Procedure available from http://www.hscic.gov.uk/pubs/calendar (then click on “Small Numbers Procedure”)</p> <p>ONS Confidentiality Guidance and working papers http://www.ons.gov.uk/about/consultations/closed-consultations/disclosure-review-for-health-statistics---consultation-on-guidance/</p> <p>HSCIC Freedom of Information process available from http://www.hscic.gov.uk/foi (then click on “Freedom of Information Process”)</p>

