

Version 1, published January 2015

## **Announcement of methodological change to NICE Technology Appraisals in the NHS in England (Innovation Scorecard): Experimental Statistics**

### **Background**

The 'NICE Technology Appraisals in the NHS in England (Innovation Scorecard)' publication provides information relating to use of medicines and other technologies which have been positively appraised through the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Technology Appraisals (TAs) process. The publication brings together data from a number of sources and allows comparisons between organisations.

The publication is released under 'experimental' status. This is a concept used for statistics in certain defined circumstances, largely to develop (with user input) new data sets and the methodologies used to analyse the data. There have been developments and additions with each version of this publication, and the changes made in this version are outlined below.

#### **1. Change to presentation format**

The interactive spreadsheet now includes summary statistics and the reporting of NHS organisations in quintiles.

#### **2. Change to technologies included**

The inclusion of additional medical technologies assessed by NICE evaluation processes where appropriate data was available. See the main report, Section 6.3 for further details.

#### **3. Change to the criteria for including medicines**

The criteria for the inclusion of medicines have been changed. These now include all medicines with an active TA published from 2008, plus those with a TA prior to 2008 but remain of interest to the NHS. Medicines can be excluded if the data is misleading or is of limited interest to the NHS. See the main report, Section 5 for further details.

**Benefit:** The changes to the technologies covered, the inclusion criteria and the enhanced presentation are all made with the agreement of the stakeholders. All are intended to increase the functionality and the value of the publication to users. The use of summary statistics and reporting by quintiles increases the understanding of variation over time and across NHS organisations.

**Impact:** Low impact. The impact of the change in inclusion criteria results in the exclusion of a small number of previously included medicines. The change was supported by all stakeholders.



#### 4. Change in HES codes used

There are some changes to the diagnosis (ICD10) and procedure (OPCS) codes, which have been incorporated into the HES extractions of medical technology data. All the clinical codes have been reviewed and minor changes made.

**Benefit:** The changes ensure the most current codes are used. The changes to existing codes were made in response to user feedback.

**Impact:** Low impact. The changes had a minor impact on the values for one medical technology only.

#### 5. Change in presentation for technologies with low numbers

In this publication, medical technologies based on HES data have been presented quarterly, in-line with the presentation of the medicines data. In previous publications, medical technologies have been presented using annual data at CCG level.

In this publication, only three of the medical technologies based on HES data are presented at CCG level, and all eight are reported at Area Team level. This change has been made due to a large number of low numbers requiring suppression at CCG level.

**Benefit:** Reporting at Area Team level removes the need for suppression of small numbers and so allows more appropriate interpretation of variation.

**Impact:** Low impact. Stakeholders supported this change.

#### Future Developments

NHS England and HSCIC are keen to improve the value and benefits of the Innovation Scorecard, and welcome feedback on this work to assist in improving the process for data collection and validation for future iterations of the Innovation Scorecard.

Further planned developments include steps to incorporate more of the features in “The Use of NICE Appraised Medicines in the NHS in England” report.

Work will continue to explore further options for a longer term, strategic solution for Innovation Scorecard production.

#### Further Information

Please contact the HSCIC on 0300 303 5678 or email [enquiries@hscic.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@hscic.gov.uk).