

Announcement of methodological change to Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in England. Pre and post operative data: Experimental Statistics.

To be published: May 2012

Published organisation level PROMs data contains casemix adjusted scores to enable a fairer comparison of organisations scores with the national average. To calculate the adjusted scores the adjustment calculation uses a variety of information (e.g. age, sex, etc) from the patients PROMs questionnaires and linked Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) inpatient record. The models are developed by contractors¹ on behalf of the Department of Health and further information regarding the current methodology can be found at the [Caspe Healthcare Knowledge Systems](#) and [PROMS](#) websites.

From 22 August 2011 some of the content of the PROMs pre-operative questionnaires was revised to better meet the needs of the programme. One of the impacts of the change is that the calculation of the adjusted scores will not function for the revised questionnaires as some of the fields the models depend upon have been removed. As a result the models have been revised by the contractors to deal with the questionnaire changes. The revised models have been constructed on the richer set of data now available with some changes to the variables included. Full details on the updated models can be accessed through the following link (<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/04/proms>).

Although the new questionnaires were issued from 22 August 2011 onwards, for reasons of consistency the changes will apply to all records within the 2011-12 financial year. However to minimise changes to already published data, PROMs data from previous financial years will continue to use the old model as these questionnaires are not affected, so there will be no changes to the calculations used to adjust the 2009-10 and 2010-11 data.

Revised models will be used for the first time in the May 2012 quarterly organisational level publication. As a result of the change users of the PROMs data will see no difference in the content and presentation of the PROMs publication, as all currently available tables will continue to be provided.

Further to the above announced revision the casemix adjustment methodology is going through the Indicator Pipeline process. This is operated by the Health and Social Care Information Centre's (HSCIC) on behalf of the National Quality Board. The process will provide assurance of the methods used and may lead to suggested improvements to the methodology used.

Feedback on the publication is welcome and should be sent to: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk

¹ CHKS Ltd in conjunction with Northgate Information Solutions Ltd.