

Analysis Method Notice

Percentage of Adults Reporting That They Find it Difficult to Make a Convenient GP Appointment

This notice describes an Analysis Method that has been developed for use in the production of published national outcome indicators, performance measures and/or currencies, which are derived directly from NHS Wales data.

The Analysis Method has been reviewed by the Analysis Methodologies Group and its output submitted to the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) for potential accreditation.

*It should be noted that, where the data flow on which the analysis is being undertaken has not been reviewed by WISB (see 'Status of WISB Data Standards Assurance' below), accreditation of the analysis method **cannot** be interpreted as an approval of the underlying data standards or the quality of the data used.*

It is recognised that formal review and/or assurance of the data flow may have been undertaken by other bodies, where those data are being formally published; for example, as 'Official Statistics'. In such circumstances, users of this method are advised to contact the relevant organisations should they require further information on the underlying quality of the specified data source.

For further details about the group, including Terms of Reference and membership, please visit the following website:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=56696>

WISB Reference: ISRN 2018 / 006

Please address enquiries about this Analysis Method the NHS Wales Informatics Service Data Standards Team.

E-mail: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk / Tel: 029 2050 2539

WISB Analysis Method Appraisal Assessment	Accredited This Analysis Method has been appraised by WISB and is felt to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the specified indicator requirement, in that it is suitable for its calculation / derivation; • Is reproducible by organisations, where appropriate.
WISB Analysis Method Appraisal Outcome(s)	

Status of Data Standards Assurance	WISB Reviewed The data used in this Analysis Method are based on data item standards that have been through the Information Standards Assurance Process.
WISB Decision	Approved
Data Standards Assurance Outcome(s)	

Indicator

The percentage of people aged 16 and over who found it difficult to make a convenient appointment with a GP

Target:

Annual reduction

Rationale / Context

The People's NHS: Research to support the consultation on creating a 'Compact' with the people in Wales in relation to their health and health services (Welsh Government, Social Research, 2013) outlines that a key driver to an efficient NHS is the accessibility of GP services.

How people are accessing GP services is changing and there is greater need for flexibility in the timing, length and nature of GP consultations. 'Our Plan for a Primary Care Service for Wales up to March 2018' outlines the commitment to accessing care from GPs and their teams at a convenient time.

Links to:

Our Plan for a Primary Care Service for Wales up to March 2018'

<http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/150218primaryen.pdf>

Data Source(s)

The National Survey for Wales

Definitions:**Definitional Guidance:**

Respondents who have made a GP appointment for themselves in the last 12 months were asked how easy or difficult it was for people to make a convenient appointment with a GP or family doctor. The survey question does not specify whether this is a GP or a nurse appointment. The term convenient is based on the individual's perception of what is convenient.

'Difficult' is defined as those who said 'very difficult' or 'fairly difficult'. 'Easy' is defined as those who said 'easy' or 'fairly easy'.

Data Items:

n/a

Terms:

n/a

Detailed Specification

Respondents are aged 16 years and over when the survey is completed.

Results from the National Survey are subject to a margin of uncertainty. The randomly selected sample of the population may give slightly different results from the results that would be obtained if the whole of the population was surveyed. The National Survey Technical Report provides further details on

confidence intervals and coefficient of variation.

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/national-survey/design-methodology/technical-information/?lang=en>

Data is published on an all Wales basis and by health board. Health Board data is based upon where the respondent resides (local authority). As a result, data may include Welsh residents whose GP is in England or whose GP practice is in a different health board area to where the individual lives.

Calculation:

Numerator

The number of respondents aged 16 and over who said that they found it difficult to make a convenient appointment with a GP by health board.

Denominator

The number of respondents aged 16 and over who provided an answer to the question on how easy or difficult it was for people to make a convenient appointment with a GP by health board.

Reporting Format / Frequency

Reporting Frequency	Annual (although currently going through a period of redevelopment)
Time Delay of Reported Data?	2 months Latest data covered 2014/15 (published June 2015)

Discussion Points / Areas for Future Development

This section details any areas the Analysis Methodologies Group felt needed further consideration / review by the 'owner' of the method.

Appendix A – Additional Information

Appendix B – SQL Code (where applicable)

n/a