

Analysis Method Notice

Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) average daily quantity (ADQ) per 1,000 STAR-PU (specific therapeutic group age related prescribing unit)

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 / 002

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	<p>Accredited This Analysis Method has been appraised by WISB and is felt to:</p> <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	<p>WISB Reviewed The data used in this Analysis Method are based on data item standards that have been through the Information Standards Assurance Process.</p>
WISB Decision	Approved
Data Standards Assurance Outcome(s)	

Indicator

Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) average daily quantity (ADQ) per 1,000 STAR-PU (specific therapeutic group age related prescribing unit)

Target:

4 quarter reduction trend

Rationale / Context

Linked to Welsh Government's Together for Health, a key aim of the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group's* *Five Year Strategy 2013-2018: Improving the Patient's Experience of Medicines in Wales* is to improve health through the safe and effective use of medicines in Wales. An area where improvement can be made is in reducing the prescribing level of non steroid anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) in primary care due to the risk of GI, cardiovascular and renal complications (particularly in the elderly). To minimise this risk, it is recommended by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) that people should use the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration necessary to control symptoms, in order to minimise adverse effects. (MHRA: Drugs Safety Update. Diclofenac: new contraindications and warning 2013, <https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/diclofenac-new-contraindications-and-warnings>).

*The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group is a statutory advisory sponsored public body that provides advice on medicines management and prescribing to Welsh Government.

Data Source(s)

All Wales Therapeutic and Toxicology Centre – National Prescribing Indicators Reports

Definitions:**Definitional Guidance:****Data Items:**

n/a

Terms:

n/a

Detailed Specification

Data derives from GP prescriptions (WP10s) that are dispensed in community pharmacies and dispensing doctors and recoded on the NHS Shared Services Database – Comparative Analysis System for Prescribing Audit (CASPA). CASPA provides a record of all WP10 prescriptions (issued by GPs in Wales for patients receiving NHS treatment) and WP10HP prescriptions (issued by hospitals in NHS Wales) forwarded to Prescribing Services, NWSSP, for processing and payment following dispensing.

ADQ and STAR-PU calculations are available through NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership: Primary Care Services.

Data is based on prescribing in general practices only. Accurate prescribing data is currently only available for primary care. It is not currently possible to measure prescribing data in the same way for secondary care.

Average Daily Quantity (ADQ) is a measure of prescribing volume based upon prescribing behaviour in England. It represents the assumed average maintenance dose per day for medicine used for its main indication in adults. The ADQ is not a recommended dose but an analytical unit to compare prescribing activity. Further information on NSAID units is available at the NHS Digital website:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/prescribing/measures>

Specific Therapeutic Group Age-Sex Related Prescribing Units (STAR-PU) measure prescribing weighted for age and sex of patients. There are differences in the age and sex of patients for whom medicines in specific therapeutic groups are usually prescribed. STAR-PU has been developed based on costs of prescribing items within the therapeutic groups.

Further information on STAR-PU is available at the NHS Digital website:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/prescribing/measures>

Numerator: ADQs of NSAIDs: The value of ADQs for all items listed under the British National Formulary (BNF) code: 10.1.1

Denominator: 1,000 STAR-PUs (13): Includes all presentations of NSAIDs included in the BNF code 10.1.1, whilst STAR-PU values are for oral NSAIDs only (BNF code 10.1.1 subset).

Both ADQ and STAR-PU are used to benchmark with the Medicines Optimisation Key Therapeutic Topics comparators in England. Data is comparable with English CCGs.

Data is presented on an all Wales and LHB basis. It is also available at practice, cluster and unitary authority levels.

Calculation:

Numerator

ADQs of NSAIDs

Denominator

1,000 STAR PUs (13)

Reporting Format / Frequency

Reporting Frequency	Quarterly
Time Delay of Reported Data?	4 months (e.g. the report for Q3 is due April)

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

n/a

Appendix B – SQL Code (where applicable)

n/a