

## Provisional Monthly Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in England – April 2009 to December 2009. Pre-operative Data: Experimental Statistics Data Quality Note

The data quality note will be updated in the event of issues arising post-publication. A summary of changes made will appear in the table below. For the most recent version of this data quality note, please refer to the [HESonline website](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk) [http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk].

Version control	
Date	Summary of update
06/05/2010	'Provisional Monthly Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in England – April 2009 to December 2009. Pre-operative Data: Experimental Statistics Data Quality Note' published

Please note this data is provisional and subject to changes and revisions each month. It should be treated as an estimate until the final annual publication.

### Introduction

The following issues have been identified as present in data:

### Experimental dataset

Not all patients who underwent a relevant operation have PROMs data included in the report (published on 8 April 2010) and monthly tables. This may be for one of several reasons, and includes the fact that: (i) questionnaire completion is voluntary for the patient; (ii) earlier in the year several providers' questionnaires were collected under a separate programme (the POIS audit); and (iii) for other providers the relevant contract was not yet applicable. For this reason, this is an experimental statistics report. Its aim is to provide an overall summary and presentation of the key findings based on the data available rather than to provide a detailed interpretive analysis or set of statistical tests. These findings are tentative pending an increase in the volume of data as later months are added. Detailed analysis of the data has been commissioned by the Department of Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

### PROMs publication

The first major publication of PROMs data occurred on 8 April 2010, focusing on patients' pre-operative conditions and summarising the levels of health they reported before undergoing one of four common elective surgical procedures.

The publication is available to download from the [HESonline website](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk) [www.hesonline.nhs.uk].

Monthly updates are to be provided on participation and linkage rates as well as provider and commissioner scores. A score comparison spreadsheet will also be produced. The next major publication of data is scheduled to occur when post-operative data becomes available.

## Data quality considerations

A full list of data quality considerations including coverage, missing values, ambiguous values and demographics is contained within the PROMs guide, which is available to download from the [HESonline website](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk) [www.hesonline.nhs.uk].

## Data completeness

Monthly provisional data may be incomplete or contain errors which have not been investigated or adjusted yet. **The number of eligible episodes and questionnaires received may change for previous months due to updated clinical coding and delayed submission of questionnaires.** In general, counts from the monthly provisional data are likely to be lower than those generated for the same period in the final annual dataset. The tables below display what changes have occurred.

Eligible HES episodes									
Period	April 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
April - November	18,953	18,900	21,198	20,930	17,984	21,039	21,785	20,954	-
April - December	19,007	18,940	21,283	20,992	18,047	21,103	21,912	21,357	17,808

Pre-operative questionnaires									
Period	April 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
April - November	5,511	9,470	11,411	10,853	9,233	11,523	13,443	11,726	-
April - December	5,518	9,477	11,423	10,870	9,368	11,681	13,490	12,410	10,905

Questionnaires linked to episodes <sup>1</sup>									
Period	April 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009
April - November	1,799	5,737	8,370	8,458	7,388	8,476	9,579	8,763	-
April - December	1,801	5,739	8,392	8,482	7,445	8,644	9,657	9,199	8,054

## POIS audit

The number of linked episodes for months prior to September 2009 is lower than in subsequent months, as approximately 80 providers were involved from April 2009 to September 2009 in the Patient Outcomes in Surgery (POIS) audit for orthopaedic procedures. These are excluded from the figures. From September 2009, the trusts involved in the POIS audit transferred to the national PROMs programme. Further details around the POIS audit are included in the PROMs guide, which is available to download from [HESonline](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk) [http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=1295].

<sup>1</sup> These figures are based on questionnaires linked to HES episodes using an algorithm that compares a number of different combinations of patient identifiers. This methodology may be revised or enhanced for future publications.

## Known provider issues in HES 2009–10 Month 10 inpatient: coverage issues

PROMs data is linked to HES inpatient data. The HES 2009–10 Month 10 Inpatient Data Quality Note noted that the following organisations have been identified as having shortfalls/missing data or specific data quality issues with their HES inpatient data. Their data should interpreted with caution.

### Organisations with HES inpatient shortfalls/missing data

Organisation name	Organisation code	Months affected	Approx. total number of records missing
Havering PCT	5A4	Sept – Dec	300
Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	RP7	Dec	130
Northamptonshire Teaching PCT	5PD	Aug – Dec	750
Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health	RNU	Nov – Dec	360
Oxfordshire PCT	5QE	Jul – Dec	960
Surrey And Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	RXX	Dec	70
West Essex PCT	5PV	Sept	50