

Practice participation in the QOF subset 2014-15 dementia data extraction

As part of the [Dementia Challenge](#), the Government is seeking to increase the number of people with dementia who receive a diagnosis. The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) has been asked by the Secretary of State for Health to collect dementia diagnosis data on a monthly basis from general practice clinical records, in advance of these data flowing as part of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) 2014-15 extractions.

Data will be collected using the General Practice Extraction Service (GPES) and are simple counts of the total number people diagnosed with dementia in each practice. The two counts that will be extracted are based on the dementia register indicator and practice list size indicator. Extractions will be backdated to April 2014. The Information Governance assessment submitted to the GPES Independent Advisory Group (IAG) has concluded that these data are not identifiable.

The data will be published on a monthly basis so that comparisons can be made between the number of patients diagnosed with dementia and the number of patients expected to be diagnosed – where gaps are identified, action plans will be produced. The Secretary of State has requested that these two counts of data begin to flow as soon as possible.

Practices have received a communication from the HSCIC, and should note that:

- Practices will be automatically opted-in to this extract, but have 6 weeks from notification of the extraction to opt-out if they wish to. The 6-week notice period is in-line with GPES IAG recommendations;
- Practices wishing to opt-out should complete the opt-out form and email it to the HSCIC by **1 September 2014**.
- Opt-outs will be recorded on behalf of practices by the HSCIC in the Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS);
- Confirmation will be sent to the practice by the HSCIC that appropriate action has been taken in respect of their decision to opt-out;
- Practices will be able to view their participation status and their extracted data, where relevant, in the CQRS portal;
- As Microtest are ahead of other clinical system suppliers with their deployment plans, all Microtest practices (approximately 140) will receive an individual phone call from the HSCIC, where they will be asked whether they wish to proceed with the extraction before the end of the 6-week notice period. Only those Microtest practices that actively agree (by returning a form to the HSCIC) will have their data extracted before the end of the 6-week notice period. All other Microtest practices will have data extracted following the 6-week notice period, unless they have opted-out;
- It is a matter for individual practices whether they participate in this extraction.

The Joint GP IT Committee of GPC and RCGP (JGPITC) was consulted on proposals before communications were issued to practices. JGPITC agreed that the practice opt-out model of participation was acceptable as an exception, on this occasion, but were clear that this does not set a precedent for any future extractions. The JGPITC are in ongoing discussions with the HSCIC on the practical arrangements and information governance around GP data extractions.