
3

Health impact of drug misuse

- 3.1 General acute hospital inpatient statistics
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3.1 General acute hospital inpatient statistics

Data for individual patients are collected by ISD Scotland as a series of Scottish Morbidity Records (SMR).

The SMR datasets constitute a significant local and national information resource, and are used for epidemiological monitoring, health needs assessment, national and local planning and a range of other applications.

SMR01 is an episode-based patient record relating to all inpatients and day cases discharged from specialities other than mental health, maternity, neonatal and geriatric long stay specialities in the NHSiS. A record is generated for each inpatient and day case episode, of which there are about 1,000,000 each year. The SMR01 basic data set encompasses patient identification and demographic information, episode management information and general clinical information. Items such as waiting time for inpatient / day case admission and length of stay may be derived from the episode management information.

Data are published in ISDs general statistical publication *Scottish Health Statistics* and in a range of other, topic-based publications and reports. An *ad hoc* enquiry service is available for more detailed analyses.

The tables and chart presented here are derived from the SMR01. Information about patients admitted to general hospitals (mainly for emergency treatment), where drug misuse is diagnosed as a factor in the patient's need for treatment, is routinely available. Some caution is necessary when using these data as (a) drug misuse may only be suspected and may not always be recorded by the hospital, and (b) where drug misuse is recorded, it may not be possible to identify which drug(s) were involved. Drug misuse is recorded on SMR returns using the codes available in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and from April 1996 the codes used were ICD version 10, which are not strictly comparable with the ICD9 codes used prior to that year.

ICD-10 Codes Opioids F11.-; Cannabinoids F12.-; Sedatives/Hypnotics F13.-; Cocaine F14.-; Other Stimulants F15.-; Hallucinogens F16.-; Volatile solvents F18.-; Multiple/other psychoactive substances F19.-

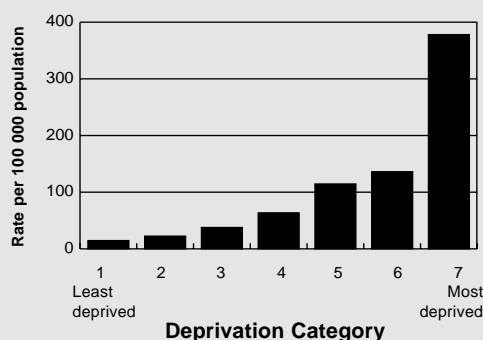
Chart 3 shows general acute admissions for drug misuse by deprivation category. The Carstairs and Morris index of deprivation was originally developed in the 1980's using census data. It is composed of four indicators which were judged to represent material disadvantage in the population. The index also correlates well with a range of health measures. The four indicators are combined to create a composite score. The deprivation score is divided into seven separate categories, ranging from very high (seven) to very low (one) deprivation. The seven categories are designed so as to retain the discriminatory features of the distribution of the deprivation score, rather than to ensure equality of numbers between each deprivation category. Some very small postcode sectors were excluded and do not have a score. The index was designed with the expectation that it would be mirrored by direct measurement of household income if that were possible. The four variables are as follows:

- Overcrowding: persons in private households living at a density of more than one person per room as a proportion of all persons in private households.
- Male employment: proportion of economically active males who are seeking work.
- Social class 4 or 5: proportion of all persons in private households with head of household in social class 4 or 5.
- No car: proportion of all persons in private households with no car.

All the proportions are calculated on the households in a given postcode sector.

chart
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General acute admissions for drug misuse by deprivation category
rate per 100 000 population : 1999/00



Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01)

16 | General acute admissions for drug misuse : 1997/98 - 2000/01

NHS board and council area of residence, age group and gender

	1997/98 ¹	1998/99 ¹	1999/00 ¹	2000/01
Scotland	2 934	3 814	4 115	4 412
<i>by NHS board</i>				
Argyll & Clyde	198	274	334	336
Ayrshire & Arran	206	309	314	336
Borders	36	27	26	41
Dumfries & Galloway	75	81	68	71
Fife	104	154	210	220
Forth Valley	92	121	112	103
Grampian	323	343	423	439
Greater Glasgow	1 084	1 572	1 617	1 838
Highland	29	33	45	43
Lanarkshire	107	183	198	291
Lothian	472	499	485	402
Tayside	133	117	127	146
Island boards ¹	8	15	20	8
Outside Scotland	26	30	29	46
No fixed abode	41	56	107	92
<i>by council area</i>				
Aberdeen City	276	279	356	368
Aberdeenshire	44	58	62	61
Angus	21	18	17	21
Argyll & Bute	21	32	51	36
Ayrshire East	85	117	124	108
Ayrshire North	57	88	105	151
Ayrshire South	64	104	85	77
Borders	36	27	26	41
Clackmannanshire	19	27	18	18
Dumfries & Galloway	75	81	68	71
Dunbartonshire East	22	21	34	38
Dunbartonshire West	35	29	52	78
Dundee City	95	72	57	84
Edinburgh City	381	385	353	280
Falkirk	55	53	54	48
Fife	104	154	210	220
Glasgow City	978	1 450	1 508	1 682
Highland	29	33	45	43
Inverclyde	112	158	139	158
Lanarkshire North	65	141	136	253
Lanarkshire South	103	121	112	126
Lothian East	24	38	33	31
Lothian West	34	37	63	65
Midlothian	33	39	36	26
Perth & Kinross	17	27	53	41
Renfrewshire	35	62	97	76
Renfrewshire East	18	15	20	18
Stirling	18	41	40	37
Other council areas ²	11	21	25	18
Outside Scotland	26	30	29	46
No fixed abode	41	56	107	92
<i>by age group</i>				
Under 15 years	43	30	22	26
15 - 19 years	353	401	409	352
20 - 24 years	661	885	932	861
25 - 29 years	683	968	1 073	1 097
30 - 34 years	624	825	926	1 046
35 years and over	570	705	753	1 030
<i>by gender</i>				
Males	1 987	2 671	2 904	3 008
Females	947	1 143	1 211	1 404

1 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles NHS boards.

2 Eilean Siar, Moray, Orkney and Shetland councils.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

17 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; age group : 2000/01

drug type

	Under 15 years	15 - 19 years	20 - 24 years	25 - 29 years	30 - 34 years	35 years and over
Opioids	1	115	403	546	500	478
Cannabinoids	10	46	33	24	26	21
Sedatives/Hypnotics	8	16	28	26	21	78
Cocaine	-	2	8	13	18	10
Other stimulants ¹	4	55	50	30	21	33
Hallucinogens	2	44	81	89	46	52
Volatile solvents	3	7	3		6	2
Multiple/Other ²	3	90	278	399	433	378

1 Including caffeine.

2 Disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

18 | General acute admissions for drug misuse : 1997/98 - 2000/01

drug type

	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01
Opioids	1 175	1 631	1 745	2 043
Cannabinoids	129	255	199	160
Sedatives/Hypnotics	219	240	216	177
Cocaine	26	41	40	51
Other stimulants ¹	195	261	217	193
Hallucinogens	201	245	239	314
Volatile solvents	24	36	39	21
Multiple/Other ²	1 065	1 304	1 579	1 581

1 Including caffeine.

2 Disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

19 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; drug type : 2000/01

NHS board and council area of residence, age group and gender

	Opioids	Cannab- inoids	Sedatives/ Hypnotics	Cocaine	Other Stimulants ³	Halluc- inogens	Volatile solvents	Multiple / Other ⁴
Scotland	2 043	160	177	51	193	314	21	1 581
<i>by NHS board</i>								
Argyll & Clyde	182	14	17	6	13	8	1	104
Ayrshire & Arran	237	29	11	2	31	24	-	27
Borders	7	6	3	-	10	5	-	14
Dumfries & Galloway	45	3	10	-	2	-	1	10
Fife	50	6	8	2	9	120	3	29
Forth Valley	44	2	10	2	6	14	-	25
Grampian	363	5	14	3	17	18	1	28
Greater Glasgow	691	55	29	14	46	24	2	1 004
Highland	12	6	9	-	2	4	-	14
Lanarkshire	156	7	12	10	14	55	-	41
Lothian	162	19	44	8	23	17	9	147
Tayside	34	6	6	4	10	11	2	77
Island Boards ¹	2	-	2	-	3	-	-	-
Outside Scotland	22	1	-	-	7	6	1	11
No fixed abode	36	1	2	-	-	8	1	48
<i>by council area</i>								
Aberdeen City	312	4	11	1	15	10	-	21
Aberdeenshire	49	1	2	1	2	4	1	5
Angus	5	3	3	1	3	-	-	7
Argyll & Bute	17	2	4	2	2	4	-	7
Ayrshire East	82	10	1	-	6	10	-	5
Ayrshire North	107	16	10	2	15	4	-	11
Ayrshire South	48	3	-	-	10	10	-	11
Borders	7	6	3	-	10	5	-	14
Clackmannanshire	8	2	2	-	-	1	-	5
Dumfries & Galloway	45	3	10	-	2	-	1	10
Dunbartonshire East	12	2	-	-	1	2	-	21
Dunbartonshire West	41	5	3	-	6	3	-	21
Dundee City	21	1	2	3	6	3	2	49
Edinburgh City	117	13	32	6	9	2	5	116
Falkirk	23	-	6	2	5	5	-	7
Fife	50	6	8	2	9	120	3	29
Glasgow City	614	46	28	12	34	17	2	954
Highland	12	6	9	-	2	4	-	14
Inverclyde	82	6	5	-	1	-	-	65
Lanarkshire North	140	6	3	9	10	46	-	43
Lanarkshire South	76	6	10	3	9	13	-	11
Lothian East	11	2	7	2	3	-	-	10
Lothian West	19	2	1	-	10	14	4	18
Midlothian	15	2	4	-	1	1	-	3
Perth & Kinross	8	2	1	-	1	8	-	21
Renfrewshire	36	3	4	4	6	2	-	26
Renfrewshire East	11	-	1	-	4	-	1	1
Stirling	13	-	2	-	1	8	-	13
Other council areas ²	4	-	3	1	3	4	-	4
Outside Scotland	22	1	-	-	7	6	1	11
No fixed abode	36	1	2	-	-	8	1	48
<i>by age group</i>								
Under 15 years	1	10	8	-	4	2	3	3
15 - 19 years	115	46	16	2	55	44	7	90
20 - 24 years	403	33	28	8	50	81	3	278
25 - 29 years	546	24	26	13	30	89	-	399
30 - 34 years	500	26	21	18	21	46	6	433
35 years and over	478	21	78	10	33	52	2	378
<i>by gender</i>								
Males	1 379	129	111	40	139	205	17	1 088
Females	664	31	66	11	54	109	4	493

1 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles NHS boards.

2 Eilean Siar, Moray, Orkney and Shetland councils.

3 Including caffeine.

4 Disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

20 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; type of admission : 2000/01

NHS board and council area of residence, age group and gender

	Elective ³	Emergency
Scotland¹	541	3 871
<i>by NHS board</i>		
Argyll & Clyde	30	306
Ayrshire & Arran	38	298
Borders	1	40
Dumfries & Galloway	13	58
Fife	28	192
Forth Valley	9	94
Grampian	52	387
Greater Glasgow	250	1 588
Highland	8	35
Lanarkshire	26	265
Lothian	57	345
Tayside	20	126
Island Boards ¹	-	8
Outside Scotland	8	38
No fixed abode	1	91
<i>by council area</i>		
Aberdeen City	34	334
Aberdeenshire	17	44
Angus	2	19
Argyll & Bute	3	33
Ayrshire East	10	98
Ayrshire North	10	141
Ayrshire South	18	59
Borders	1	40
Clackmannanshire	1	17
Dumfries & Galloway	13	58
Dunbartonshire East	2	36
Dunbartonshire West	11	67
Dundee City	14	70
Edinburgh City	41	239
Falkirk	7	41
Fife	28	192
Glasgow City	229	1 453
Highland	8	35
Inverclyde	13	145
Lanarkshire North	28	225
Lanarkshire South	11	115
Lothian East	7	24
Lothian West	7	58
Midlothian	2	24
Perth & Kinross	4	37
Renfrewshire	7	69
Renfrewshire East	2	16
Stirling	1	36
Other council areas ²	1	17
Outside Scotland	8	38
No fixed abode	1	91
<i>by age group</i>		
Under 15 years	-	26
15 - 19 years	24	328
20 - 24 years	76	785
25 - 29 years	131	966
30 - 34 years	132	914
35 years and over	178	852
<i>by gender</i>		
Males	363	2 645
Females	178	1 226

1 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles NHS boards.

2 Eilean Siar, Moray, Orkney and Shetland councils.

3 Includes deferred, waiting list and repeat admissions, and booked cases.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

21 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; speciality : 2000/01

NHS board and council area of residence, age group and gender

	General Medicine	Cardio- logy	Communi- cable Diseases	Respir- atory Medicine	General Surgery	General Surgery (excl Vascular)	A & E	Anaes- thetics	Ortho- paedics	Plastic Surgery	Gynae- cology	Other
Scotland	2 267	31	371	46	489	336	227	74	248	63	42	218
<i>by NHS board</i>												
Argyll & Clyde	197	-	1	-	71	3	11	-	22	6	3	22
Ayrshire & Arran	192	-	1	-	-	44	42	10	16	-	10	21
Borders	38	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dumfries & Galloway	45	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	2	-	-	12
Fife	98	2	15	6	-	53	3	4	30	-	2	7
Forth Valley	63	3	-	-	21	-	-	1	9	-	-	6
Grampian	131	-	112	6	2	28	98	7	7	8	-	40
Greater Glasgow	932	18	101	20	309	167	21	39	111	41	19	60
Highland	21	-	-	-	8	1	5	1	1	-	-	6
Lanarkshire	137	4	63	1	38	2	12	1	27	-	1	5
Lothian	265	3	53	12	4	10	-	6	11	5	4	29
Tayside	71	1	18	1	16	7	20	3	4	-	-	5
Island Boards ¹	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outside Scotland	22	-	-	-	5	8	2	2	3	1	1	2
No fixed abode	50	-	7	-	5	10	11	-	5	2	2	-
<i>by council area</i>												
Aberdeen City	116	-	99	5	2	18	88	4	4	7	-	25
Aberdeenshire	12	-	12	1	-	7	9	3	3	-	-	14
Angus	13	-	-	-	2	1	3	1	-	-	-	1
Argyll & Bute	14	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	13
Ayrshire East	66	-	-	-	-	21	9	3	1	-	2	6
Ayrshire North	99	-	1	-	-	17	11	2	11	-	-	10
Ayrshire South	27	-	-	-	-	6	22	5	4	-	8	5
Borders	38	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Clackmannanshire	11	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	1
Dumfries & Galloway	45	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	2	-	-	12
Dunbartonshire East	21	-	-	2	12	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dunbartonshire West	44	-	3	-	14	3	-	2	7	1	1	3
Dundee City	30	-	16	1	13	2	17	2	2	-	-	1
Edinburgh City	173	2	49	9	-	8	-	4	8	3	4	20
Falkirk	32	3	-	-	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	4
Fife	98	2	15	6	-	53	3	4	30	-	2	7
Glasgow City	868	18	94	18	266	160	21	37	92	36	18	54
Highland	21	-	-	-	8	1	5	1	1	-	-	6
Inverclyde	107	-	1	-	37	-	-	-	8	-	1	4
Lanarkshire North	113	4	53	1	28	3	11	1	30	2	1	6
Lanarkshire South	50	-	14	-	41	3	1	-	12	1	1	3
Lothian East	19	1	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Lothian West	51	-	1	-	4	-	-	1	3	1	-	4
Midlothian	22	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Perth & Kinross	28	1	2	-	1	4	-	-	2	-	-	3
Renfrewshire	36	-	-	-	13	2	10	-	6	6	1	2
Renfrewshire East	13	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	1
Stirling	20	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	3	-	-	1
Other council areas ²	8	-	1	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	-	2
Outside Scotland	22	-	-	-	5	8	2	2	3	1	1	2
No fixed abode	50	-	7	-	5	10	11	-	5	2	2	-
<i>by age group</i>												
Under 15 years	15	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	9
15 - 19 years	211	-	18	2	24	12	35	9	17	3	4	17
20 - 24 years	498	2	63	9	90	47	54	10	47	15	4	22
25 - 29 years	548	10	96	14	109	99	59	17	70	15	10	50
30 - 34 years	503	4	105	8	144	89	37	18	60	16	20	42
35 years and over	492	15	89	13	122	89	40	20	54	14	4	78
<i>by gender</i>												
Males	1 567	24	242	29	327	239	172	42	188	39	-	139
Females	700	7	129	17	162	97	55	32	60	24	42	79

1 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles NHS boards.

2 Eilean Siar, Moray, Orkney and Shetland councils.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

22 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; length of stay : 2000/01

drug type

	less than 1 week	between 1 week and 1 month	between 1 month and 3 months	more than 3 months
Opioids	1 815	209	17	2
Cannabinoids	154	6	-	-
Sedatives/Hypnotics	145	29	3	-
Cocaine	45	5	1	-
Other stimulants ¹	182	11	-	-
Hallucinogens	289	25	-	-
Volatile solvents	19	2	-	-
Multiple/Other ²	1 377	192	12	-

1 Including caffeine.

2 Disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances.

23 | General acute admissions for drug misuse ; length of stay : 2000/01

NHS board and council area of residence, age group and gender

	less than 1 week	between 1 week and 1 month	between 1 month and 3 months	more than 3 months
Scotland	3 904	473	33	2
<i>by NHS board</i>				
Argyll & Clyde	294	38	4	-
Ayrshire & Arran	304	29	3	-
Borders	36	5	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	65	6	-	-
Fife	204	16	-	-
Forth Valley	94	9	-	-
Grampian	385	47	6	1
Greater Glasgow	1 597	224	17	-
Highland	39	3	1	-
Lanarkshire	257	33	-	1
Lothian	368	32	2	-
Tayside	126	20	-	-
Island Boards ¹	7	1	-	-
Outside Scotland	42	4	-	-
No fixed abode	86	6	-	-
<i>by council area</i>				
Aberdeen City	325	40	3	-
Aberdeenshire	50	7	3	1
Angus	19	2	-	-
Argyll & Bute	33	1	2	-
Ayrshire East	97	10	1	-
Ayrshire North	135	14	2	-
Ayrshire South	72	5	-	-
Borders	36	5	-	-
Clackmannanshire	17	1	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	65	6	-	-
Dunbartonshire East	36	2	-	-
Dunbartonshire West	68	10	-	-
Dundee City	73	11	-	-
Edinburgh City	254	24	2	-
Falkirk	42	6	-	-
Fife	204	16	-	-
Glasgow City	1 458	208	16	-
Highland	39	3	1	-
Inverclyde	136	21	1	-
Lanarkshire North	223	30	-	-
Lanarkshire South	110	14	1	1
Lothian East	26	5	-	-
Lothian West	63	2	-	-
Midlothian	25	1	-	-
Perth & Kinross	34	7	-	-
Renfrewshire	68	7	1	-
Renfrewshire East	16	2	-	-
Stirling	35	2	-	-
Other council areas ²	17	1	-	-
Outside Scotland	42	4	-	-
No fixed abode	86	6	-	-
<i>by age group</i>				
Under 15 years	26	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	341	10	1	-
20 - 24 years	801	56	2	2
25 - 29 years	976	115	6	-
30 - 34 years	917	121	8	-
35 years and over	843	171	16	-
<i>by gender</i>				
Males	2 683	301	22	2
Females	1 221	172	11	-

1 Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles NHS boards.

2 Eilean Siar, Moray, Orkney and Shetland councils.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR01).

3.2 Psychiatric inpatient statistics

Tables 24 to 29 contain information on admissions to and discharges from mental illness hospitals and psychiatric units (in general hospitals); but exclude admissions to and discharges from the State Hospital at Carstairs. These statistics are derived from data collected through the mental health inpatient and day case return (SMR04) which records information at admission and discharge. On the SMR04 form, up to six separate diagnoses can be recorded on discharge. A diagnosis in the first position is the principal diagnosis on discharge. A diagnosis 'in any position', refers to the occurrence of a diagnosis in any of the six positions (including first and supplementary).

Figures for all admissions, re-admissions and discharges relate to the number of episodes, not to the number of individual patients admitted or discharged. First admissions relate to first ever admissions to a mental illness hospital or psychiatric unit, and therefore approximate to the number of people. It is also important to note that re-admissions will include patients who have returned for treatment after a long period of time, as well as those who have been diagnosed after a short interval.

Diagnosis is recorded on both the admission and the discharge part of the record and diagnosis on discharge may differ from diagnosis on admission. The tables presented here are based on diagnosis on discharge. This, in part, accounts for any differences between the figures published here, and those published in the previous (2000) edition of Drugs Misuse Statistics Scotland. Further differences will reflect an increased completeness of records received from a number of NHS board areas. In Tables 27 to 29, diagnoses have been grouped together into the following short list of diagnoses based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision:

Diagnosis	ICD Numbers (10 th Revision)
Dementia	F00 - F03
Alcohol misuse	F10.0 - F10.9
Drug misuse	F11.0 - F16.9, F18.0 - F19.9
Schizophrenia	F20
Mood (affective) disorders	F30 - F39
- Bipolar affective disorders	F31
- Depressive episode	F32
- Recurrent depressive disorder	F33
Other psychotic disorders	F04, F05, F09, F22, F23, F24, F28, F29
Disorders of childhood	F80, F81, F82, F84, F88, F89, F90, F93, F94
Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders	F40 - F48
Personality disorders	F60
Mental handicap	F70 - F79
Other conditions	All other codes from the International Classification of Diseases, 10 th Revision

The introduction of the 10th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases in April 1996 has resulted in considerable changes to the classification of certain mental and behavioural disorders and, as a result, it is not possible to make direct comparisons at the level of diagnostic groups before and after this date. Consequently, to avoid any possible confusion, trends in admissions to mental illness hospitals and psychiatric units by diagnosis are not shown in this edition of Drugs Misuse Statistics Scotland. Future editions may contain trends based on the new classification.

For more information on this topic please contact [Judith Tait](#) (0131 551 8204).

Analysis of tables

[Table 24](#) presents data showing trends in admission to psychiatric hospitals involving drugs misuse. In general, there has been a steady increase in admissions over the period 1994/95 to 1999/00, although improved recording may be responsible in part. In 1999/00, the largest proportion of hospital episodes with a drug misuse diagnosis (in any position) was in the Greater Glasgow NHS board area (25 per cent), followed by Lothian (13 per cent) and Ayrshire & Arran (12 per cent).

[Table 25](#) presents information about the drug type recorded against admissions with a main diagnosis on discharge of drugs misuse. The category of drugs most frequently recorded is that of ‘multiple/other psychotic substances’. Beyond this, opioids are the drug type most frequently mentioned.

Of the 1 257 cases where a diagnosis of drug misuse (in any position) was recorded, the majority of the patients were aged between 20 and 29 (51 per cent). Males accounted for 68 per cent of those individuals with a diagnosis of drug misuse, a similar percentage to that found by the Scottish Drug Misuse Database (68 per cent, [Table 59](#), page 80).

[Table 26](#) presents information about the length of stay associated with a diagnosis of drug misuse. It can be seen that 42 per cent of all stays (813) are of less than one week’s duration, and a further 794 (41 per cent) are of between one week and one month’s duration. Three hundred and seventeen episodes recorded stays of one month or longer.

[Tables 27](#) and [28](#) show information about the diagnostic category of main discharge diagnoses and supplementary discharge diagnoses, respectively. A total of four diagnoses (main plus three additional) may be recorded on the discharge record. Note that in each of these tables, some individuals may appear in more than one column (as they may have received more than one supplementary diagnosis). In 1999/00, there were 1 257 discharges with a main diagnosis of drug misuse and just over a third of these had an additional diagnosis recorded ([Table 27](#)). In total, 453 discharges had an additional diagnosis in the second position, 84 in the third position and 22 in the fourth position. Only 54 of the 453 discharges with an additional diagnosis in the second position had a drug-related diagnosis in this position as well.

Not all discharges with a drug-related diagnosis have these diagnoses as a main diagnosis on discharge. [Table 28](#) shows the main discharge diagnosis for discharges with a drug-related diagnosis in the second, third or fourth position. A total of 628 discharges had a drug-related diagnosis in the second position. For these, the most common main diagnoses were of schizophrenia and mood (affective) disorders. Mental and behavioural disorders due to the use of alcohol and neurotic, stress related and somatoform disorders also feature highly.

[Table 29](#) presents information about the diagnostic category of main diagnosis. Discharges with a main diagnosis of drug misuse account for 3.6 per cent of all discharges, while discharges with a diagnosis of drug misuse in any position, account for 5.5 per cent.

24 Psychiatric inpatient discharges with a diagnosis of drug misuse^{1,2} ; discharge diagnosis : 1994/95 - 1999/00^p

previous psychiatric inpatient status, NHS board of residence and council area of residence

	1994/95		1995/96		1996/97		1997/98 ^r		1998/99 ^p		1999/2000 ^p	
	Main	All	Main	All	Main	All	Main	All	Main	All	Main	All
All admissions	827	1 497	905	1 572	1 010	1 384	1 147	1 705	1 175	1 781	1 257	1 924
First admission	375	633	389	581	394	501	450	591	450	581	472	596
<i>by NHS board</i>												
Argyll & Clyde	94	132	98	143	98	139	119	187	115	190	109	174
Ayrshire & Arran	115	223	113	223	101	131	164	207	168	238	176	235
Borders	24	32	18	29	35	43	20	31	24	39	29	36
Dumfries & Galloway	19	34	30	42	30	35	37	46	27	39	24	37
Fife	32	40	31	49	36	56	51	91	58	94	59	84
Forth Valley	20	72	41	98	52	74	48	66	38	67	37	71
Grampian	44	57	62	71	72	83	54	66	51	64	54	83
Greater Glasgow	202	248	220	267	232	286	285	422	310	437	342	489
Highland	35	147	25	86	23	41	25	46	31	46	45	72
Lanarkshire	67	212	63	162	79	100	96	120	104	136	100	131
Lothian	84	157	103	192	103	183	110	194	107	172	131	243
Orkney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Shetland	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tayside	57	86	74	140	97	141	97	167	92	178	71	158
Western Isles	1	5	-	8	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Other ³	33	52	27	62	49	69	41	60	49	80	80	111
<i>by council area</i>												
Aberdeen City	28	31	44	51	46	53	35	43	36	43	38	52
Aberdeenshire	9	14	15	16	17	21	15	19	9	11	12	16
Angus	6	10	10	14	14	17	8	14	9	12	12	19
Argyll & Bute	9	9	10	13	8	8	16	18	12	15	12	15
Ayrshire East	45	74	47	65	41	56	49	62	34	52	63	82
Ayrshire North	45	70	41	73	38	48	78	103	96	126	67	95
Ayrshire South	25	79	25	84	20	25	35	40	38	59	41	52
Borders	24	32	18	29	35	43	20	31	24	39	29	36
Clackmannanshire	4	7	6	16	6	8	5	8	7	10	8	11
Dumfries & Galloway	19	34	30	42	30	35	37	46	27	39	24	37
Dunbartonshire East	7	7	12	13	8	9	14	18	7	11	22	28
Dunbartonshire West	26	36	18	25	41	48	51	70	18	41	22	48
Dundee City	45	66	52	109	59	93	69	124	57	106	48	92
Edinburgh City	46	93	69	134	67	125	73	138	73	129	81	143
Eilean Siar	1	5	-	8	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	11	49	23	56	26	37	17	28	16	30	15	36
Fife	32	40	31	49	36	55	51	90	58	94	59	84
Glasgow City	172	207	190	230	184	229	240	360	283	393	297	420
Highland	35	147	25	86	23	41	25	46	31	46	41	68
Inverclyde	14	22	20	28	14	26	7	14	26	40	29	52
Lanarkshire North	38	95	45	121	66	87	74	92	70	92	54	72
Lanarkshire South	39	127	26	49	30	32	32	42	41	54	52	70
Lothian East	7	9	7	10	10	14	8	16	4	4	15	22
Lothian West	23	42	24	40	11	18	16	21	15	18	26	51
Midlothian	8	13	3	7	15	26	13	19	15	21	9	26
Moray	7	12	3	4	9	9	4	4	6	10	4	13
Orkney Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Perth & Kinross	6	10	12	16	24	31	20	29	26	60	11	47
Renfrewshire	44	68	42	70	37	57	56	93	55	88	54	73
Renfrewshire East	11	17	16	18	18	25	9	20	17	27	8	12
Shetland Islands	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stirling	5	15	11	24	18	27	25	29	15	27	14	24
Other ³	36	57	30	72	56	78	45	66	49	83	90	128

1 Excludes misuse of tobacco or alcohol.

2 'Main' is the Primary diagnosis; 'All' includes supplementary diagnoses.

3 'Other' includes patients resident outwith Scotland or those where NHS board or council area of residence is not known.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

25 | Psychiatric inpatient discharges with a main discharge diagnosis of drug misuse¹; drug type : 1999/00^p

previous psychiatric inpatient status, NHS board of residence, council area of residence, age group and gender

	Total	Opioids	Cannab- inoids	Sedatives/ Hypnotics	Cocaine	Other stimulants	Halluc- inogens	Volatile solvents	Mutiple/ Other ⁵
Scotland (All discharges)²	1 257	379	52	50	8	91	15	4	658
First admission	472	163	23	17	4	44	6	-	215
Re-admission	769	212	28	32	4	47	9	4	433
<i>by NHS board</i>									
Argyll & Clyde	109	39	6	2	-	3	-	-	59
Ayrshire & Arran	176	62	8	10	1	6	4	-	85
Borders	29	12	3	3	-	4	2	-	5
Dumfries & Galloway	24	16	2	2	-	-	-	-	4
Fife	59	13	1	2	-	5	2	-	36
Forth Valley	37	15	3	2	-	2	-	-	15
Grampian	54	21	1	1	1	7	-	-	23
Greater Glasgow	342	81	3	8	3	46	1	1	199
Highland	45	9	10	1	-	1	-	-	24
Lanarkshire	100	48	-	2	1	-	4	-	45
Lothian	131	36	12	7	1	12	1	1	61
Orkney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tayside	71	8	3	6	-	4	1	1	48
Western Isles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/not known ³	80	19	-	4	1	1	-	1	54
<i>by council area</i>									
Aberdeen City	38	17	-	-	1	5	-	-	15
Aberdeenshire	12	4	1	1	-	1	-	-	5
Angus	12	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	8
Argyll & Bute	12	-	2	1	-	3	-	-	6
Ayrshire East	63	25	3	4	-	2	-	-	29
Ayrshire North	67	20	5	5	1	2	4	-	30
Ayrshire South	41	15	-	-	-	2	-	-	24
Borders	29	12	3	3	-	4	2	-	5
Clackmannanshire	8	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Dumfries & Galloway	24	16	2	2	-	-	-	-	4
Dunbartonshire East	22	1	-	-	-	7	-	-	14
Dunbartonshire West	22	4	4	-	-	2	-	-	12
Dundee City	48	6	1	4	-	2	-	1	34
Edinburgh City	81	17	8	3	1	8	1	1	42
Eilean Siar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	15	8	-	-	-	2	-	-	5
Fife	59	13	1	2	-	5	2	-	36
Glasgow City	297	77	1	8	3	37	1	1	169
Highland	41	9	9	-	-	1	-	-	22
Inverclyde	29	17	1	1	-	-	-	-	10
Lanarkshire North	54	21	-	2	1	-	-	-	30
Lanarkshire South	52	28	-	-	-	-	4	-	20
Lothian East	15	2	2	2	-	3	-	-	6
Lothian West	26	14	1	1	-	1	-	-	9
Midlothian	9	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	4
Moray	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Orkney Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perth & Kinross	11	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	6
Renfrewshire	54	17	1	-	-	-	-	-	36
Renfrewshire East	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Shetland Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stirling	14	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	6
Other/not known ³	90	21	1	6	1	1	-	1	59
<i>by age group⁴</i>									
Under 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	137	33	8	4	-	12	8	1	71
20 - 24 years	310	108	15	8	2	17	-	-	160
25 - 29 years	334	95	11	14	1	26	1	1	185
30 - 34 years	234	71	9	9	2	22	4	1	116
35 years and over	242	72	9	15	3	14	2	1	126
<i>by gender</i>									
Males	855	249	44	24	4	62	9	3	460
Females	402	130	8	26	4	29	6	1	198

1 Excludes misuse of tobacco or alcohol.

2 Includes type of admission not known and cases with a missing or invalid response.

3 Patients resident outwith Scotland or those where NHS board or local council area is not known.

4 Age on admission.

5 Mental and behavioural disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

26 | Psychiatric inpatient discharges with a discharge diagnosis of drug misuse¹ in any position ; length of stay : 1999/00^p

previous psychiatric inpatient status, NHS board of residence, council area of residence, age group and gender

	Total	less than 1 week	between 1 week and 1 month	between 1 month and 3 months	more than 3 months
Scotland (All discharges)²	1 924	813	794	234	83
First admission	596	266	264	52	14
Re-admission	1 300	535	521	178	66
<i>by NHS board</i>					
Argyll & Clyde	174	78	65	27	4
Ayrshire & Arran	235	69	124	36	6
Borders	36	17	14	3	2
Dumfries & Galloway	37	18	14	3	2
Fife	84	46	28	5	5
Forth Valley	71	28	33	9	1
Grampian	83	36	34	10	3
Greater Glasgow	489	233	191	45	20
Highland	72	23	25	16	8
Lanarkshire	131	44	69	12	6
Lothian	243	109	101	26	7
Orkney	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland	-	-	-	-	-
Tayside	158	59	63	25	11
Western Isles	-	-	-	-	-
Other/not known ³	111	53	33	17	8
<i>by council area</i>					
Aberdeen City	52	21	23	6	2
Aberdeenshire	16	7	5	3	1
Angus	19	7	8	3	1
Argyll & Bute	15	8	2	5	-
Ayrshire East	82	22	47	11	2
Ayrshire North	95	25	54	14	2
Ayrshire South	52	20	21	10	1
Borders	36	17	14	3	2
Clackmannanshire	11	5	5	1	-
Dumfries & Galloway	37	18	14	3	2
Dunbartonshire East	28	13	12	2	1
Dunbartonshire West	48	30	16	1	1
Dundee City	92	40	35	12	5
Edinburgh City	143	61	58	18	6
Eilean Siar	-	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	36	12	18	5	1
Fife	84	46	28	5	5
Glasgow City	420	199	165	40	16
Highland	68	21	24	16	7
Inverclyde	52	26	19	5	2
Lanarkshire North	72	21	36	11	4
Lanarkshire South	70	28	35	3	4
Lothian East	22	11	8	3	-
Lothian West	51	26	21	3	1
Midlothian	26	11	13	2	-
Moray	13	8	5	-	-
Orkney Islands	-	-	-	-	-
Perth & Kinross	47	12	20	10	5
Renfrewshire	73	24	35	13	1
Renfrewshire East	12	5	2	4	1
Shetland Islands	-	-	-	-	-
Stirling	24	11	10	3	-
Other/not known ³	128	58	41	19	10
<i>by age group⁴</i>					
Under 15 years	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	175	85	60	17	13
20 - 24 years	459	195	193	58	13
25 - 29 years	504	247	192	50	15
30 - 34 years	367	139	153	49	26
35 years and over	419	147	196	60	16
<i>by gender</i>					
Males	1 325	584	521	151	69
Females	599	229	273	83	14

1 Excludes misuse of tobacco or alcohol.

2 Includes type of admission not known and cases with a missing or invalid response.

3 Patients resident outwith Scotland or those where NHS board or council area of residence is not known.

4 Age on admission.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

27 | Psychiatric inpatient discharges with a main discharge diagnosis of drug misuse^{1,2} : 1999/00^p

supplementary discharge diagnosis

	2nd discharge diagnosis			3rd discharge diagnosis			4th discharge diagnosis		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
All discharges	453	302	151	84	53	31	22	13	9
Dementia	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	48	32	16	5	3	2	-	-	-
Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug misuse	54	39	15	9	9	-	-	-	-
Schizophrenia	26	21	5	3	3	-	-	-	-
Mood (affective) disorders	51	24	27	10	5	5	3	1	2
- Bipolar affective disorder	6	4	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
- Depressive episode	37	15	22	9	5	4	2	1	1
- Recurrent depressive disorder	5	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other psychotic disorders	15	10	5	5	3	2	2	-	2
Disorders of childhood	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders	38	27	11	11	4	7	-	-	-
Personality disorder	31	20	11	12	8	4	-	-	-
Mental handicap	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	189	128	61	27	17	10	17	12	5
No supplementary diagnosis	804	553	251	1 173	802	371	1 235	842	393

1 Excludes misuse of tobacco or alcohol in main diagnosis.

2 As an individual may have a number of diagnoses in any discharge record, some individuals may appear in more than one column.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

28 | Psychiatric inpatient discharges with a supplementary discharge diagnosis of drug misuse^{1,2} : 1999/00^p

main discharge diagnosis

Main discharge diagnosis for discharges with a drug-related diagnosis in the :

	2nd position			3rd position			4th position		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
All discharges	628	447	181	113	76	37	14	9	5
Dementia	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	103	81	22	14	13	1	2	2	-
Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug misuse	54	39	15	9	9	-	-	-	-
Schizophrenia	168	150	18	14	13	1	4	4	-
Mood (affective) disorders	115	69	46	25	14	11	2	-	2
- Bipolar affective disorder	28	24	4	3	3	-	-	-	-
- Depressive episode	62	30	32	17	9	8	2	-	2
- Recurrent depressive disorder	13	7	6	3	1	2	-	-	-
Other psychotic disorders	42	33	9	7	5	2	3	3	-
Disorders of childhood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders	64	29	35	20	11	9	1	-	1
Personality disorder	55	27	28	17	7	10	2	-	2
Mental handicap	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	25	18	7	6	3	3	-	-	-

1 Excludes misuse of tobacco or alcohol as a supplementary diagnosis.

2 As an individual may have a number of diagnoses in any discharge record, some individuals may appear in more than one column.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

29 | Psychiatric inpatient discharges by main discharge diagnosis : 1999/00^p

all discharges by previous psychiatric inpatient status and gender

	Total	Males	Females
All discharges^{1,2}	34 643	18 168	16 475
Dementia	5 383	2 223	3 160
Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	4 267	3 091	1 176
Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug misuse	1 257	855	402
Schizophrenia	4 368	3 032	1 336
Mood (affective) disorders	8 479	3 274	5 205
- Bipolar affective disorder	2 079	868	1 211
- Depressive episode	4 479	1 721	2 758
- Recurrent depressive disorder	1 149	343	806
Other psychotic disorders	1 699	983	716
Disorders of Childhood	402	237	165
Neurotic, stress related and somatoform disorders	2 157	914	1 243
Personality disorder	1 040	402	638
Mental handicap	3 343	1 977	1 366
Other	2 248	1 180	1 068
First admissions²	8 565	4 407	4 158
Dementia	1 775	691	1 084
Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	1 261	931	330
Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug misuse	472	317	155
Schizophrenia	437	296	141
Mood (affective) disorders	2 205	916	1 289
- Bipolar affective disorder	211	90	121
- Depressive episode	1 582	661	921
- Recurrent depressive disorder	184	67	117
Other psychotic disorders	642	330	312
Disorders of Childhood	47	32	15
Neurotic, stress related and somatoform disorders	843	401	442
Personality disorder	165	94	71
Mental handicap	220	127	93
Other	498	272	226
Re-admissions^{2,3}	25 127	13 297	11 830
Dementia	3 257	1 394	1 863
Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	2 894	2 073	821
Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug misuse	769	528	241
Schizophrenia	3 865	2 693	1 172
Mood (affective) disorders	6 092	2 289	3 803
- Bipolar affective disorder	1 844	771	1 073
- Depressive episode	2 771	1 007	1 764
- Recurrent depressive disorder	948	272	676
Other psychotic disorders	1 012	627	385
Disorders of Childhood	354	205	149
Neurotic, stress related and somatoform disorders	1 259	484	775
Personality disorder	851	295	556
Mental handicap	3 079	1 829	1 250
Other	1 695	880	815

1 Includes type of admission 'not known'.

2 Includes patients with learning disabilities.

3 Includes transfers in from other psychiatric inpatient care.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR04).

3.3

Information from general practice

Introduction

Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR) is a set of data collected from every face-to-face doctor-patient contact in a set of practices across Scotland. All mainland NHS boards are represented in the 73 practices participating in CMR. The practices provide an adequate representation of the Scottish population in terms of age, gender, deprivation and urban/rural mix.

The data set includes:

- Patient identifier (this is generated by the GPASS computer system and is practice specific)
- Date of birth
- Sex
- Postcode
- Diagnosis (up to ten per contact)
- Modifier (first, recurrence or persistent - for each diagnosis)
- Date of consultation

As patients often present with multiple problems, up to ten diagnoses can be recorded for each contact. Each diagnosis is given a modifier which describes whether it is either the first time the problem has presented, a recurrence of a previous problem or a persistent problem.

Contacts are recorded by every doctor (including locums) but not contacts seen by other practice staff, e.g. practice nurses; health visitors. All doctor contacts (including contacts with temporary residents) are captured, i.e. surgery consultations; clinics; home visits; out of hours (this includes practice patients seen by other doctors, e.g. co-operative doctors).

Each diagnosis is coded using the Read coding system. The data are then entered onto the practice GPASS computer system. Each month, the data are extracted and passed on to ISD where they are cleaned and analysed. There are a considerable number of Read codes available and, for most analyses, individual Read codes are too detailed. There is also considerable scope for variation in the use of codes between different practices. Because of this, analysts and medical staff within ISD have grouped the codes into clinically meaningful conditions to aid the analysis of CMR data.

Information is fed back to the participating practices in the form of individual monthly and quarterly reports. Data from practices funded by NHS boards are also forwarded to the relevant board: other CMR practices also share data with their board. An *ad hoc* analysis service is provided by ISD Scotland to the NHSScotland in general, from an aggregated, anonymised, central file.

Analysis

The analysis below utilises data from the 44 practices for which data were available for the calendar years 1999 and 2000. The data comprise consultations with only those individuals attending during these periods.

It is important to note that the figures do not reflect the prevalence of drug misuse in the community. It is known that people who misuse drugs are often not in contact with any service. The figures do, however, give an insight into some characteristics of those who misuse drugs and present to a General Practitioner (GP).

Of all the patients attending this sample of GPs, those with a diagnosis of drug misuse account for a very small figure of all patients attending their GP; in 2000 those patients with a diagnosis of drug misuse accounted for only 0.6 per cent of all patients attending (these figures are derived by aggregating totals in row (a) and row (d) in [Table 30](#)). However, this will vary from not only area-to-area but also from one GP to another in the same area.

[Table 30](#) shows that in 2000, 855 males and 432 females received a diagnosis of drug misuse, representing a 3 per cent increase on the 1999 figure. This contrasts with a small decrease in the number of patients attending their GP in the same period without a diagnosis of drug misuse.

Males accounted for 66 per cent of those individuals with a diagnosis of drug misuse, a similar percentage to that found by the Scottish Drug Misuse Database (68 per cent, Table 59, page 80). However, in those contacts involving patients without a diagnosis of drug misuse, the picture is very different; 56 per cent of all such patients attending their GP were women. Male patients with drug misuse problems accounted for 0.9 per cent of all male GP patients and for females the figure was 0.4 per cent.

Table 30 also highlights the importance of age in defining patients with a drug misuse diagnosis. In 2000, over half (60 per cent) of male patients consulting with their drug misuse were aged 25 – 44 years, with over a third (34 per cent) aged between 15 and 24 years. Fifty-one per cent of females were aged between 25 and 44 years and 34 per cent aged 15 - 24 years old.

The prevalence and contact rates, per 1 000 population, for those patients with and without a drug misuse diagnosis in 1999 and 2000, are presented in **Table 31**. These figures confirm that the prevalence rate for male and female patients with a diagnosis of drug misuse are highest amongst those aged 15 - 24 (18.4 and 9.9 per 1 000 population respectively) and those aged 25 - 44 (13.0 and 5.6 per 1 000 population respectively). Although the highest prevalence rate for non-drug misuse consultations amongst female patients is in the age band 15 – 24 years, prevalence rates for non drug misuse consultations amongst male patients are found to be highest in those aged 15 years and under and those aged 65 years and over.

Table 31 also highlights a trend over the last two years in the increasing number of contacts GPs have had with female patients with a diagnosis of drug misuse, particularly with those aged 15 – 24 years. In 1999, the contact rate for females in this age group was 49.3 per 1 000 and in 2000 the figure had risen to 61.7 per 1 000. The contact rate for non-drug misuse consultations amongst female patients actually decreased over the same period in all age groups except the over 65 years age group. For males aged 15 – 24 years however, this trend is reversed; with the contact rate decreasing from 131.0 to 101.7 per 1 000 population between 1999 and 2000.

Diagnoses associated with drug misuse

Table 32 (illustrated in **Chart 4**) presents the most commonly reported conditions among those with a drug misuse diagnosis and compares rates, on the same conditions, for those patients without a drug misuse diagnosis. From **Table 32**, it can be seen that for male drug users, 16.8 per cent have received a diagnosis of depression and 14.6 per cent one of anxiety, compared to only 6.1 and 5.6 per cent respectively of males without a drug misuse diagnosis. Drug misusing males were also more likely to have been diagnosed for alcohol problems (8.9 per cent) than males attending with no drug misuse diagnosis (1.6 per cent).

For females with a diagnosis of drug misuse, depression and anxiety are the two conditions for which the majority of individuals present (38.3 per cent and 28.0 per cent respectively). These figures are approximately twice the proportion of drug misusing males presenting and over three times the rate for women presenting without a drug misuse diagnosis. Female drug misuse patients are also around twice as likely to suffer from lower respiratory tract infection than male drug misuse patients as well as non-drug misuse female patients. Female drug misuse patients are also proportionately more likely to suffer from skin infections than both male drug misuse patients and female patients without a drug misuse problem.

Tracking patients with a first diagnosis of drug misuse

Table 33 presents data about patient contacts made with the GP after a first diagnosis of drug misuse (with this first contact made between 1 January and 31 December 1999) and tracks their subsequent contacts with their GP during the following 12 months. This allows for some examination of the workload characteristics of GPs in dealing with those patients with a first diagnosis of drug misuse.

In total there were 375 patients with a first diagnosis of drug misuse in 1999; 65 per cent were male and 35 per cent were female. The largest proportions of male patients were aged between 25 - 44 years (47 per cent) and 15 - 24 years (45 per cent). The age profile for female patients is very similar with the majority of female patient's aged between 15 - 44 years (90 per cent) compared to the male figure of 92 per cent.

However, the nature and extent of a patient's contact with their GP after the first diagnosis of drug misuse differs by gender. Over the year, male patient consultations for their drug misuse accounted for 71.2 per cent of all contacts with the GP and for female patient consultations this figure was 48.8 per cent. Male patients had a mean 6.7 contacts with their GP concerning their drug misuse whilst female patients had an average 5.6 contacts. Female patients, on the other hand, have a greater number of overall contacts with their GP through the year with a mean 11.4 contacts, compared to male patients who had a mean 9.4 contacts with their GP.

Female patients were also more likely than male patients to consult their GP over mental health matters: 23.0 and 11.5 per cent respectively of contacts concerned mental health issues. Consultations with the GP concerning mental health issues tend to increase, as the patient gets older and this is particularly pronounced among female patients. However, 7.8 per cent of male contacts and 16.7 per cent of female contacts on mental health issues came from those aged 24 years and under.

Male patients will therefore be the majority of a GP's workload when dealing with drug misuse patients. Male patients are also more likely to consult their GP more frequently on their drug misuse than female patients. The female drug misusing patient population tends to be slightly older than the male population and is more likely to consult their GP on drug and non-drug issues equally compared to male patients.

30 | Number of patients diagnosed (total and first diagnosis only) and number of contacts : 1999^r and 2000

		Males						Females					
		Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over	Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over
Patients with a diagnosis of drugs misuse ¹ (a)	1999 ^r	826	5	301	459	53	8	422	5	148	221	39	9
	2000	855	7	294	516	33	5	432	1	149	219	49	14
Patients with a first diagnosis of drugs misuse (b)	1999 ^r	245	3	110	115	16	1	130	3	59	58	8	2
	2000	232	3	93	124	10	2	137	-	63	47	20	7
Drugs misuse contacts (c)	1999 ^r	5 106	7	2 108	2 784	158	49	1 888	5	750	1 024	100	9
	2000	5 050	8	1 621	3 234	148	39	2 153	1	930	1 076	124	22
Patients attending in the period, excluding those with a diagnosis of drugs misuse (d)	1999 ^r	90 572	18 869	10 626	24 940	22 704	13 433	114 231	18 270	14 436	34 268	27 315	19 942
	2000	89 553	18 155	10 384	24 313	22 944	13 757	113 739	17 602	14 228	33 964	27 736	20 209
Contacts in the period, excluding drug misuse contacts (e)	1999 ^r	308 904	54 796	26 617	72 161	87 318	68 012	492 627	53 365	54 371	149 026	128 521	107 344
	2000	306 707	51 975	26 064	70 188	88 247	70 233	485 900	50 013	52 696	145 042	128 361	109 788
Percentage of drug misuse patients ²	1999 ^r	0.9	-	2.8	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.4	-	1.0	0.6	0.1	-
	2000	0.9	-	2.8	2.1	0.1	-	0.4	-	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.1
Percentage of drug misuse contacts ³	1999 ^r	1.6	-	7.3	3.7	0.2	0.1	0.4	-	1.4	0.7	0.1	-
	2000	1.6	-	5.9	4.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	-	1.7	0.7	0.1	-

^r Revised.

¹ Number of patients with at least one diagnosis of drug misuse during the period.

² This row is calculated using the formula: $100 \times (a) / [(a)+(d)]$.

³ This row is calculated using the formula: $100 \times (c) / [(c)+(e)]$.

Note: Population source - ISD Scotland, General Medical Practitioner database (as at 1 October 1999).

Source : ISD Scotland, Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR).

31 | Prevalence¹ and contact rates : 1999^r and 2000

		Males						Females					
		Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over	Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over
Population ¹	1999 ^r	128 729	24 460	16 090	40 138	32 401	15 640	132 251	23 167	15 214	39 470	32 030	22 370
	2000	128 544	24 199	15 939	39 816	32 832	15 758	131 641	22 832	15 069	38 909	32 368	22 463
Drug misuse ²	1999 ^r	6.4	0.2	18.7	11.4	1.6	0.5	3.2	0.2	9.7	5.6	1.2	0.4
	2000	6.7	0.3	18.4	13.0	0.1	0.3	3.3	-	9.9	5.6	1.5	0.6
Non-drug misuse ³	1999 ^r	703.6	771.4	660.4	621.4	700.7	858.9	863.7	788.6	948.9	868.2	852.8	891.5
	2000	696.7	750.2	651.5	610.6	698.8	873.0	864.0	770.9	944.2	872.9	856.9	899.7
Drug misuse ²	1999 ^r	39.7	0.3	131.0	69.4	4.9	3.1	14.3	0.2	49.3	25.9	3.1	0.4
	2000	39.3	0.3	101.7	81.2	4.5	2.5	16.4	-	61.7	27.7	3.8	1.0
Non-drug misuse ³	1999 ^r	2 399.6	2 240.2	1 654.3	1 797.8	2 694.9	4 348.6	3 724.9	2 303.5	3 573.7	3 775.7	4 012.5	4 798.6
	2000	2 386.0	2 147.8	1 635.2	1 762.8	2 687.8	4 457.0	3 691.1	2 190.5	3 497.0	3 727.7	3 965.7	4 887.5

r Revised.

1 Prevalence rates based on practice population (not on general population).

2 Rates are calculated using number of patients with at least one diagnosis of drug misuse during the period 1998.

3 Excludes drug misuse patients.

Note: Population source - ISD Scotland, General Medical Practitioner database.

Source : ISD Scotland, Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR).

32 | Proportion of patients seen with specified condition/illness¹ : 2000 patients aged 15 - 44 years

	Drug misuse patients		Non-drug misuse patients	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Males	(n = 810)		(n = 34 697)	
Depression	136	16.8	2 125	6.1
Anxiety	118	14.6	1 942	5.6
Back Problems	80	9.9	3 475	10.0
Alcohol Problems	72	8.9	562	1.6
Trauma - miscellaneous	70	8.6	2 701	7.8
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (excl. sore throat)	55	6.8	2 963	8.5
Lower Respiratory Tract Infection	52	6.4	1 805	5.2
Miscellaneous	51	6.3	1 807	5.2
Skin Infections	42	5.2	1 777	5.1
Sore Throat	36	4.4	2 599	7.5
Females	(n = 368)		(n = 48 192)	
Depression	141	38.3	5 710	11.8
Anxiety	103	28.0	4 096	8.5
Lower Respiratory Tract Infection	47	12.8	2 674	5.5
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (excl. sore throat)	42	11.4	5 308	11.0
Miscellaneous	40	10.9	2 979	6.2
Back Problems	32	8.7	4 097	8.5
Alcohol Problems	30	8.2	242	0.5
Family Planning - miscellaneous	29	7.9	4 843	10.0
Skin Infections	28	7.6	2 110	4.4
Social / Personal History	28	7.6	1 433	3.0

1 Ten most commonly seen conditions among drug misuse patients.

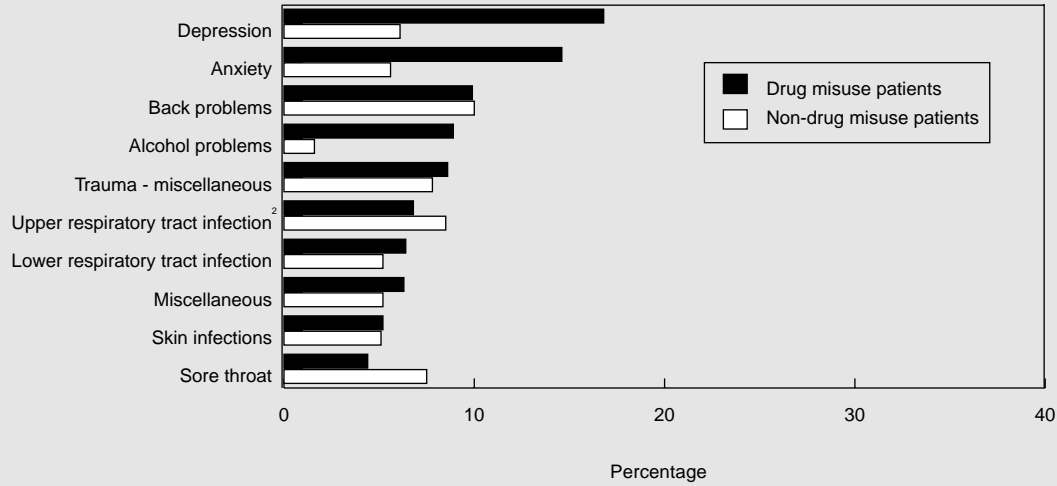
Note: Population source - ISD Scotland, General Medical Practitioner database.

Source : ISD Scotland, Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR).

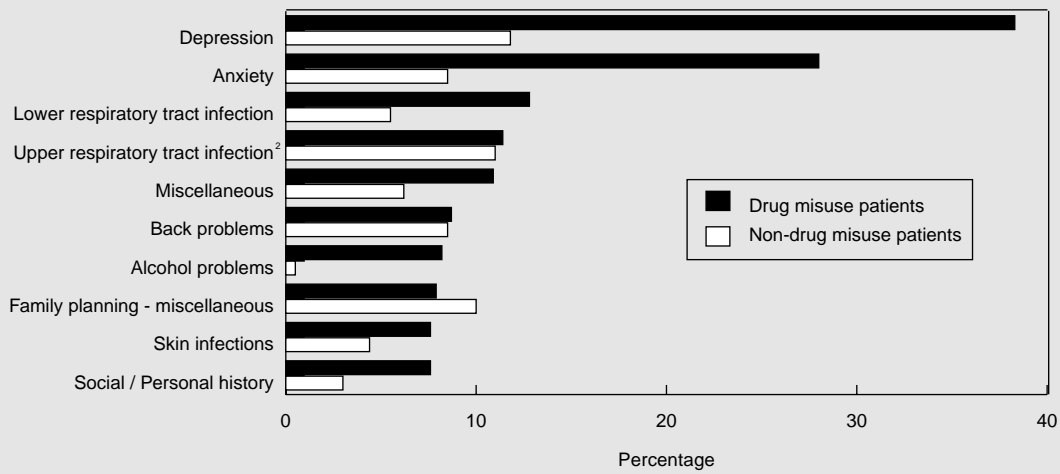
chart **4**

Proportion of patients (with and without a diagnosis of drug misuse) seen with specified condition/illness¹ : 2000
 patients aged 15 - 44 years

Males



Females



1 The ten most commonly seen conditions among drug misuse patients.
 2 Excludes sore throat.

Source : ISD Scotland, Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR).

33 Tracking patients with a first diagnosis of drug misuse for 12 months ; gender and age group : 1999 and 2000

	Males						Females					
	Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over	Total	Under 15 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over
Patients seen with a first diagnosis of drugs misuse: 1/1/99 - 31/12/99 (a)	245	3	110	115	16	1	130	3	59	58	8	2
Total contacts within 12 months of first diagnosis of drug misuse ¹ (b)	2 298	7	1 025	1 064	183	19	1 481	10	636	712	96	27
Drugs misuse contacts within 12 months ¹ (c)	1 637	3	823	787	23	1	722	3	348	356	13	2
Mental health contacts within 12 months ¹ (d)	264	-	80	118	64	2	340	-	106	183	39	12
Ave. no. of contacts per patient ²	9.4	2.3	9.3	9.3	11.4	19.0	11.4	3.3	10.8	12.3	12.0	13.5
Ave. no. of drugs misuse contacts per patient ³	6.7	1.0	7.5	6.8	1.4	1.0	5.6	1.0	5.9	6.1	1.6	1.0
Ave. no. of mental health contacts per patient ⁴	1.1	-	0.7	1.0	4.0	2.0	2.6	-	1.8	3.2	4.9	6.0
Drug misuse contacts as a % of all contacts ⁵	71.2	42.9	80.3	74.0	12.6	5.3	48.8	30.0	54.7	50.0	13.5	7.4
Mental health contacts as a % of all contacts ⁶	11.5	-	7.8	11.1	35.0	10.5	23.0	-	16.7	25.7	40.6	44.4

1 Includes contact at which drugs misuse is first diagnosed.

2 This row is calculated using the formula: (b) / (a).

3 This row is calculated using the formula: (c) / (a).

4 This row is calculated using the formula: (d) / (a).

5 This row is calculated using the formula: 100 x (c) / (b).

6 This row is calculated using the formula: 100 x (d) / (b).

Source : ISD Scotland, Continuous Morbidity Recording (CMR).

3.4 Drug misuse in pregnancy

Introduction

This section presents national statistics on drug misuse in pregnancy. The source of the information is maternity inpatient and day case records (SMR02) and neonatal discharge records (SMR11), collected by the Information and Statistics Division (ISD Scotland).

Over recent years there has been increased recognition of the particular treatment needs of pregnant women who are drug users. Also, efforts have been made by clinicians and others to improve the identification and recording of diagnoses of drug misuse. Under-recording problems, however still exist, and it is recognised that the statistics presented here are underestimates. For example, estimates from clinicians in Glasgow suggest that actual numbers of maternities involving drug-using women may be as much as twice the number recorded on the SMR02 records. This highlights the need to develop a consistent approach to recording. Details are given below on the efforts being made to improve data collection in the SMR02 and SMR11 systems.

The data presented here does, nevertheless, provide a useful starting point in looking at the issue of drug misuse in pregnancy at a national level.

SMR02 records

Since 1976, the maternity inpatient and day case record (SMR02) system has achieved national coverage of 98 per cent of all births. Delivery records account for approximately half of all maternity inpatient and day case discharges each year; antenatal, postnatal and abortion episodes make up the remaining discharges.

Drug misuse is recorded on the SMR02 returns using the following codes from the International Classification of diseases (10th revision): -

- Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of: opioids (code F11); sedatives or hypnotics (F13); cocaine (F14); other stimulants (F15); hallucinogens (F16); volatile solvents (F17); multiple drug use and use of other psycho-active substances (F19)
- Maternal care for suspected damage to fetus by drugs (O35.5)

SMR02 review

The purpose of the SMR02 review is to iron out data collection and validation problems experienced by clinical coding staff in the service. The opportunity has also been taken to consider additional data items to aid the collection of valuable information for one of the key priority areas, namely substance misuse. The proposed changes will be implemented across the service on 1 October 2002.

SMR11 records

Record type SMR11 records all neonatal discharge information (including from neonatal units and postnatal cots), with records being generated for sick babies who fall into one of the following categories:

- Babies who require medical care (other than (a) resuscitation immediately after birth or (b) routine screening)
- Babies who have a congenital anomaly (whether or not medical treatment is given at that time).

Drug misuse is recorded on the SMR11 returns using the following codes from the International Classification of diseases (10th revision): -

- Fetus and newborn affected by maternal use of drugs of addiction (P04.4)
- Neonatal withdrawal symptoms from maternal use of drugs of addiction (P96.1)

SMR11 review

Until 1996, every baby was entered onto the SMR11 scheme, but it was decided that details of healthy babies should reside on SMR02 (maternity), and SMR11 would be reserved for sick babies and babies with congenital anomalies. However, this has not proved successful, and there has been confusion over what constitutes a “sick” baby. There was also an unacceptably low level of reporting of congenital anomalies.

The Scottish Birth Record (SBR) will replace the old SMR11 reporting scheme, and every baby born in Scotland will have one (and only one) SBR. The SBR scheme is being implemented throughout Scotland from April 2002.

Analysis of the data

The figures presented here cover the four years, 1996/97 to 1999/00. Data for all years shown are revised, so will be different from previously published figures. Care should be taken when comparing numbers over time, as there has been an improvement in drug misuse recording over the last four years. Also, recording practices of drug misuse diagnoses may vary between hospitals that could explain part of the differences between NHS boards or council areas.

[Table 34](#) presents information about maternities (pregnancies which result in a live or stillbirth) for the four years 1996/97 to 1999/00. In 1999/00, of a total of 53 047 maternities recorded, there were 188 cases (3.5 per 1 000 discharges) where the mother had a diagnosis of drug misuse. Of these, 72 cases (38 per cent) were in Greater Glasgow NHS board area, followed by Grampian (30 cases, 16 per cent). Of the 188 cases where a diagnosis of drug misuse was recorded, the majority of the mothers were aged between 20 and 29 (121 cases, 64 per cent).

The data in [Table 35](#) relates to neonatal discharges over the period 1996/97 to 1999/00. In 1999/00, there were a total of 18 287 neonatal discharges in Scotland, of which 324 included a diagnosis of drug misuse. Once again, Greater Glasgow NHS board area accounted for the largest share (109 cases, 34 per cent), followed by Grampian (67 cases, 21 per cent), then Lothian (29 cases, 9 per cent) and Ayrshire and Arran (28 cases, 9 per cent). The rate of discharges recording drug misuse diagnoses (per 1 000 discharges) indicates a steady increase in the occurrence of such cases between 1996/97 and 1999/00, with an increase from 9.3 to 17.7 per 1 000 discharges.

34 | Number of maternities^{1,2} : 1996/97 - 1999/00

NHS board, council area of residence and age of mother

	All maternities				Maternities recording drug misuse ⁵				Rate per 1 000 Discharges			
	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}
Scotland	57 481	57 597	55 760	53 047	145	139	199	188	2.5	2.4	3.6	3.5
<i>by NHS board</i>												
Argyll & Clyde	4 807	4 823	4 584	4 388	3	8	7	14	0.6	1.7	1.5	3.2
Ayrshire & Arran	4 057	4 003	3 972	3 646	2	2	22	23	0.5	0.5	5.5	6.3
Borders	1 087	1 023	989	1 002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	1 402	1 546	1 406	1 375	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2.2
Fife	3 715	3 657	3 666	3 514	2	5	8	10	0.5	1.4	2.2	2.8
Forth Valley	2 982	3 138	3 098	2 919	1	-	-	3	0.3	-	-	1.0
Grampian	5 915	5 953	5 788	5 641	13	33	37	30	2.2	5.5	6.4	5.3
Greater Glasgow	10 499	10 662	9 932	9 253	84	54	91	72	8.0	5.1	9.2	7.8
Highland	2 329	2 358	2 333	2 107	1	-	2	2	0.4	-	0.9	0.9
Lanarkshire	6 514	6 526	6 392	6 079	5	1	3	2	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.3
Lothian	9 027	8 789	8 695	8 481	13	10	10	5	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.6
Orkney	210	210	201	166	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland	249	266	261	276	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tayside	4 331	4 262	4 011	3 906	20	26	19	24	4.6	6.1	4.7	6.1
Western Isles	238	229	260	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other ³	119	152	172	143	1	-	-	-	8.4	-	-	-
<i>by council area</i>												
Aberdeen City	2 326	2 358	2 284	2 286	9	25	31	24	3.9	10.6	13.6	10.5
Aberdeenshire	2 585	2 542	2 512	2 407	-	8	5	6	-	3.1	2.0	2.5
Angus	1 219	1 175	1 138	1 035	3	3	3	1	2.5	2.6	2.6	1.0
Argyll & Bute	902	891	842	767	1	1	-	4	1.1	1.1	-	5.2
Ayrshire East	1 360	1 353	1 307	1 233	-	1	12	11	-	0.7	9.2	8.9
Ayrshire North	1 546	1 531	1 512	1 385	1	1	7	6	0.6	0.7	4.6	4.3
Ayrshire South	1 145	1 117	1 150	1 027	1	-	3	6	0.9	-	2.6	5.8
Borders	1 082	1 018	985	992	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clackmannanshire	586	557	531	520	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	1 403	1 534	1 406	1 374	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2.2
Dunbartonshire East	1 045	1 158	1 099	926	1	-	-	1	1.0	-	-	1.1
Dunbartonshire West	1 152	1 134	1 069	1 034	1	1	2	12	0.9	0.9	1.9	11.6
Dundee City	1 754	1 643	1 564	1 526	15	21	9	19	8.6	12.8	5.8	12.5
Edinburgh City	5 045	4 904	4 769	4 684	12	8	9	4	2.4	1.6	1.9	0.9
Eilean Siar ⁴	238	228	250	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	1 496	1 634	1 658	1 540	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fife	3 710	3 652	3 663	3 511	2	5	8	10	0.5	1.4	2.2	2.8
Glasgow City	7 355	7 425	6 842	6 432	80	50	83	63	10.9	6.7	12.1	9.8
Highland	2 328	2 349	2 335	2 107	1	-	2	2	0.4	-	0.9	0.9
Inverclyde	967	953	927	903	2	6	4	1	2.1	6.3	4.3	1.1
Lanarkshire North	3 943	3 937	3 883	3 584	3	-	3	2	0.8	-	0.8	0.6
Lanarkshire South	3 383	3 375	3 220	3 147	4	4	7	3	1.2	1.2	2.2	1.0
Lothian East	1 067	986	1 002	953	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lothian West	2 003	1 978	1 976	1 926	1	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Midlothian	898	915	937	908	-	1	-	-	-	1.1	-	-
Moray	997	1 033	981	943	4	-	1	-	4.0	-	1.0	-
Orkney Islands	210	209	200	166	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perth & Kinross	1 358	1 429	1 296	1 337	2	1	6	4	1.5	0.7	4.6	3.0
Renfrewshire	2 051	2 114	1 988	1 942	-	1	1	2	-	0.5	0.5	1.0
Renfrewshire East	992	982	981	896	-	-	1	-	-	-	1.0	-
Shetland Islands	249	265	261	276	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stirling	868	930	907	849	1	-	-	3	1.2	-	-	3.5
Other ³	218	288	285	281	1	1	1	-	4.6	3.5	3.5	-
<i>by age of mother</i>												
Under 15 years	30	19	31	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	4 506	4 816	4 786	4 686	16	23	26	33	3.6	4.8	5.4	7.0
20 - 24 years	10 725	10 140	9 617	9 145	63	48	63	63	5.9	4.7	6.6	6.9
25 - 29 years	18 780	18 013	16 811	15 220	47	44	74	58	2.5	2.4	4.4	3.8
30 - 34 years	16 576	17 041	16 643	16 070	14	21	28	26	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.6
35 years and over	6 864	7 568	7 872	7 910	5	3	8	8	0.7	0.4	1.0	1.0

1 Excludes home births.

2 A maternity is defined as a pregnancy which results in a live or stillbirth: multiple pregnancies counted only once.

3 Area of residence "not known" or outwith Scotland.

4 Formerly Western Isles.

5 Drug misuse is defined using the following International Classification of Disease (10th Revision) codes: O35.5, F11, F12, F13, F14, F15, F16, F18, and F19.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

Source : Scottish Morbidity Record (SMR02).

35 Neonatal discharges¹ : 1996/97 - 1999/00

NHS board and council area of residence

	All Discharges				Discharges Recording Drug Misuse ⁴				Rate per 1 000 Discharges			
	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}	1996/97 ^r	1997/98 ^r	1998/99 ^r	1999/00 ^{r,p}
Scotland	17 351	17 322	17 931	18 287	161	217	246	324	9.3	12.5	13.7	17.7
<i>by NHS board</i>												
Argyll & Clyde	2 303	1 304	1 128	1 164	9	11	22	34	3.9	8.4	19.5	29.2
Ayrshire & Arran	854	998	888	684	10	17	23	28	11.7	17.0	25.9	40.9
Borders	273	238	251	273	-	1	-	2	-	4.2	-	7.3
Dumfries & Galloway	274	315	285	301	2	3	5	7	7.3	9.5	17.5	23.3
Fife	570	527	535	507	6	6	10	15	10.5	11.4	18.7	29.6
Forth Valley	580	676	611	702	2	7	2	12	3.4	10.4	3.3	17.1
Grampian	3 825	3 952	3 845	3 989	24	60	42	67	6.3	15.2	10.9	16.8
Greater Glasgow	2 989	3 466	3 908	4 059	59	66	100	109	19.7	19.0	25.6	26.9
Highland	552	595	555	603	3	4	5	6	5.4	6.7	9.0	10.0
Lanarkshire	1 441	1 390	1 587	1 551	4	2	4	10	2.8	1.4	2.5	6.4
Lothian	2 187	2 414	3 074	3 472	20	16	19	29	9.1	6.6	6.2	8.4
Orkney	112	143	121	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland	119	127	144	152	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6.6
Tayside	1 210	1 106	906	660	21	24	13	4	17.4	21.7	14.3	6.1
Western Isles	24	28	29	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other ²	38	43	64	49	1	-	1	-	26.3	-	15.6	-
<i>by council area</i>												
Aberdeen City	1 688	1 687	1 689	1 872	21	43	36	49	12.4	25.5	21.3	26.2
Aberdeenshire	1 884	1 981	1 943	1 929	1	15	6	13	0.5	7.6	3.1	6.7
Angus	290	269	250	142	2	3	2	1	6.9	11.2	8.0	7.0
Argyll and Bute	584	286	261	252	1	-	3	8	1.7	-	11.5	31.7
Ayrshire East	307	353	285	255	7	9	12	12	22.8	25.5	42.1	47.1
Ayrshire North	323	372	353	239	1	4	8	11	3.1	10.8	22.7	46.0
Ayrshire South	224	272	248	186	2	4	3	5	8.9	14.7	12.1	26.9
Borders	270	238	251	264	-	1	-	2	-	4.2	-	7.6
Clackmannanshire	118	148	142	148	1	-	1	1	8.5	-	7.0	6.8
Dumfries & Galloway	274	314	285	298	2	3	5	7	7.3	9.6	17.5	23.5
Dunbartonshire East	270	398	425	426	-	-	2	3	-	-	4.7	7.0
Dunbartonshire West	733	410	453	504	2	4	6	14	2.7	9.8	13.2	27.8
Dundee City	518	451	398	228	9	16	9	1	17.4	35.5	22.6	4.4
Edinburgh City	1 318	1 543	1 954	2 182	18	15	14	27	13.7	9.7	7.2	12.4
Eilean Siar ³	24	28	29	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Falkirk	233	268	194	235	-	5	-	4	-	18.7	-	17.0
Fife	567	526	534	487	6	6	10	15	10.6	11.4	18.7	30.8
Glasgow City	2 215	2 524	2 750	2 800	58	59	89	99	26.2	23.4	32.4	35.4
Highland	551	594	554	571	3	4	5	3	5.4	6.7	9.0	5.3
Inverclyde	678	192	159	228	2	5	6	9	2.9	26.0	37.7	39.5
Lanarkshire North	930	920	992	889	3	2	4	4	3.2	2.2	4.0	4.5
Lanarkshire South	667	643	797	888	2	4	6	9	3.0	6.2	7.5	10.1
Lothian East	171	159	420	488	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2.0
Lothian West	471	422	309	341	1	1	5	1	2.1	2.4	16.2	2.9
Midlothian	225	290	375	416	1	-	-	-	4.4	-	-	-
Moray	252	282	188	87	2	2	-	-	7.9	7.1	-	-
Orkney Islands	112	143	121	103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perth & Kinross	401	386	255	267	10	5	2	2	24.9	13.0	7.8	7.5
Renfrewshire	450	517	447	423	3	1	7	6	6.7	1.9	15.7	14.2
Renfrewshire East	196	256	301	282	1	4	3	1	5.1	15.6	10.0	3.5
Shetland Islands	119	127	144	151	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6.6
Stirling	225	262	274	306	1	2	1	7	4.4	7.6	3.6	22.9
Other ²	63	61	151	383	1	-	1	8	15.9	-	6.6	20.9

1 A baby may be admitted to and discharged from neonatal care more than once. Figures relate to the total number of discharges, not to the number of individual babies.

2 Area of residence "not known" or outwith Scotland.

3 Formerly Western Isles.

4 Drug misuse is defined using the following International Classification of Disease (10th Revision) codes: O35.5, F11, F12, F13, F14, F15, F16, F18, and F19.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

Source : ISD Scotland (SMR11).

3.5

Blood-borne viruses

HIV

In 2000, the number of reported HIV-infected injectors (nineteen) was the lowest annual number on record (Table 38); the corresponding figures for 1999 and 1998 were 22 and 26 respectively. Of the 19, eight were from Lothian, four from Greater Glasgow and three from Tayside. The prevalence of HIV among injectors having a named HIV test in Scotland has stayed fairly similar to 1999, when it reached its lowest level (Table 44). In 2000, 16 of 2 262 injectors tested (0.7 per cent) were antibody positive; this compares with prevalences of between 2 per cent and 3.7 per cent during 1989 and 1993, a constant prevalence of around 1.5 per cent during 1994-1997 (data not shown), and a prevalence of 0.9 per cent and 0.6 per cent in 1998 and 1999 respectively.

It would appear that the incidence of HIV among injectors in Scotland is lower now than it has been since infection was first introduced into the country's injecting populations in 1983. Interventions such as needle/syringe exchange and methadone maintenance programmes have been effective in making HIV transmission among injectors in Scotland a relatively rare occurrence. Indeed, apart from the outbreak of HIV among injector-inmates at HMP Glenochil in 1993, transmission among injectors in the 1990s has been sporadic not only in Scotland but elsewhere in the UK. There are signs, however, that the potential for a resurgence of HIV among injectors in Scotland is increasing (see sections on Hepatitis B and C below).

To the end of 2000, 1 248 HIV-infected injecting drug users had been reported by HIV testing laboratories to SCIEH (Table 40); 599 (48 per cent) were known to have died. Between January 2000 and November 2001, 444 HIV infected injectors were in specialised clinical care, as indicated by the fact that they underwent CD4 count testing to assess their immunological status and thus the stage of HIV disease they had reached (Table 42). The majority of cases (252) resided in Lothian. Of the 444, 149 (34 per cent) had a most recent CD4 count of between zero and 200 cells per mm³ (severe disease), 194 had a count of between 201 and 500 cells (moderate to mild disease), and 101 had a normal count which exceeded 500 cells per mm³.

Between one-third and one-half of HIV-infected injectors who had their very first ever CD4 count during 1997 – 2000, had severe HIV disease as indicated by a count of less than 200 cells per mm³ (Table 43). Since the first CD4 count is usually performed within weeks of the individual becoming diagnosed, it would appear that a large proportion of infected injectors are discovering they are HIV positive at a late stage of their HIV disease progression.

Of the 444 HIV infected injectors who underwent immunological monitoring during January 2000 – November 2001, 337 (76 per cent) were prescribed two or more antiretroviral drugs during this period (Table 43). While we do not know how well these individuals were adhering to their therapeutic regimens, it is clear that most injectors who are eligible for therapy are actually receiving it. The impact of combination antiretroviral therapy (introduced in Scotland during 1996) on HIV disease progression is demonstrated by the recent reduction in AIDS cases and AIDS deaths among injecting drug users. During 1993 – 1995, the average annual number of AIDS registrations was 54 (Table 37); in 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000, the number of registrations were 30, 36, 18, 14 and 11 respectively. Likewise, only 10 AIDS deaths among injectors were recorded in 2000, compared to 13 in 1999, 12 in 1998, 21 in 1997 and 43 in 1996.

Hepatitis B

In 2000, 360 cases of Hepatitis B infection were reported by laboratories to SCIEH; a decrease from 1999, when the highest annual total (386 cases) since 1986 was recorded (Table 36). In 1998 and 1997, 295 and 215 cases respectively were reported. 89 of the 360 reports mentioned injecting drug use as the patient's principal risk factor but it is likely that the majority of cases acquired their infection through injecting practices. 52 of the 89 (58 per cent) injecting-related cases in 2000 were from Grampian, a slight increase from the 57 per cent in 1999. Further measures have been taken to reduce needle/syringe sharing among this city's injectors but it is concerning that Hepatitis B is so incident in an area which has one of the most comprehensive needle/syringe

exchange schemes in Scotland. In 2000, the incidence of Hepatitis B infection associated with injecting drug use noticeably decreased in Tayside, reversing the large increase of 1999. In Argyll & Clyde, a decrease in the number of injecting-related reports from 17 in 1998 and 11 in 1999, to 7 in 2000 continues to be seen; this observation reflects the impact of interventions which were introduced to control the epidemic of Hepatitis B among injectors from Port Glasgow.

Following the identification of several cases of Hepatitis B infection in Scotland's prisons, the Scottish Prison Service introduced routine Hepatitis B vaccination within the prison setting, an initiative that became fully established in 1999. It is hoped that this measure and increased efforts to vaccinate injectors in the community will help to control the spread of Hepatitis B infection that has risen to levels approaching those seen in the mid-1980s. The Hepatitis B virus, however, is less virulent than HIV and Hepatitis C. Accordingly, it is important that we do not lose sight of the root problem – namely, injectors sharing injecting equipment.

Hepatitis C

To June 2000, 10 929 persons in Scotland had been diagnosed as having Hepatitis C infection (Table 45); information on laboratory request forms indicated that 6 326 (58 per cent) were injecting drug users but it is likely that the majority of the 3 780 (35 per cent) for whom no risk information was available, also acquired their HCV through injecting practices. A total of 1 954 persons received their diagnosis in 1999; this compares with 2 017 in 1998, 1 485 in 1997 and 522 in 1993. 37 per cent of the 10 929 cases resided in Greater Glasgow, 16 per cent in Lothian, 11 per cent in Grampian and 8 per cent in Tayside.

Statistical models to estimate the total number of HCV infected persons in Scotland are being developed but preliminary work suggests that the overall figure is likely to be between 20 000 and 40 000. Since very large numbers were infected prior to 1990 and since the rate of progression to cirrhosis of the liver within 20 years of infection is estimated to be 20 per cent, several thousand individuals may present with symptoms of chronic liver disease to health services during the next 10 – 15 years.

Ribavirin and Interferon therapy, combined, leads to sustained clearance of HCV infection from the circulation in about 40 per cent of treated cases; infected injectors who continue to inject, however, are ineligible for treatment. While drug treatment will be used increasingly in the management of HCV infected persons, it is essential that prevention remains the principal goal. There is evidence to indicate that the incidence of HCV among injectors has declined during the era of needle/syringe exchange, methadone maintenance therapy and other harm reduction initiatives. Nevertheless, in many parts of Scotland, infections are still occurring; in Glasgow, for example, surveys indicated that the annual incidence of HCV among the city's injectors during the late 1990s was 20-30 per cent. The prevention of this infection among injectors – particularly in the absence of an HCV vaccine – is one of Scotland's greatest public health challenges. In recognition of this, the Scottish Executive commissioned a Scottish Needs Assessment Programme group on Hepatitis C infection and its report has just been published.

In Scotland:

- A total of 10 929 cases of Hepatitis C antibody positivity were known as of 30 June 2000; included are 66 persons under the age of 15 (Table 46).
- Eighty-seven per cent (9 475) of the 10 929 were aged between 15 and 44, and 11 per cent (1 149) were aged 45 and over (Table 46).
- Of the 10 929 cases, 46 per cent (5 021) were diagnosed between January 1998 and the end of June 2000 (Table 45).
- Fifty-eight per cent (6 326) of all cases were known to have ever injected drugs and of the 3 780 cases for whom there was no risk information available, 76 per cent (2 868) were aged between 15 and 44 - the range within which most injecting drug users belonged - at the time of testing.

36 Hepatitis B infected injecting drug users : 1990 - 2000

NHS board ¹

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<i>Hepatitis B (Drug misuse cases)</i>											
Scotland	55	50	21	17	17	14	19	24	58	115	89
Argyll & Clyde	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	15	17	11	7
Ayrshire & Arran	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Dumfries & Galloway	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Forth Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Grampian	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	25	65	52
Greater Glasgow	47	41	17	14	11	12	7	7	13	20	20
Highland	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Lanarkshire	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Lothian	1	5	1	3	1	2	1	-	-	1	2
Tayside	2	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	13	2
<i>Hepatitis B (All cases)</i>											
Scotland	249	200	120	186	166	152	184	215	295	386	360

¹ Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH).

37 AIDS cases and deaths registered¹, and HIV-infection reports among injecting drug users^{2,3} : 1987 - 2000

as at 31 December of year indicated

	AIDS cases registered			AIDS deaths ¹			HIV-infected reports		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<i>Injecting drug user</i>									
1987	1	2	3	1	1	2	120	57	177
1988	5	1	6	1	-	1	47	24	71
1989	18	6	24	4	4	8	37	14	51
1990	22	3	25	8	5	13	31	7	38
1991	23	12	35	29	9	38	37	14	51
1992	16	8	24	23	1	24	27	11	38
1993	38	17	55	22	11	33	48	10	58
1994	43	13	56	32	17	49	19	8	27
1995	33	17	50	39	13	52	23	6	29
1996	21	9	30	31	12	43	29	5	34
1997	26	10	36	17	4	21	30	12	42
1998	16	2	18	10	2	12	21	5	26
1999	9	5	14	11	2	13	16	6	22
2000	9	2	11	8	2	10	13	6	19
Cumulative Total (to 31 Dec 2000)	280	108	388	236	83	319	878	370	1 248
<i>All transmission categories</i>									
Cumulative Total (to 31 Dec 2000)	832	210	1 042	640	135	775	2 419	759	3 178

¹ Deaths relate to the number of deaths occurring during the given year - irrespective of when the case was registered.

² Figures are different to those presented in the past.

³ Figures include several males who have had sexual intercourse with other males.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

38 | HIV-infected injecting drug users : 1985, 1990, 1995 - 2000NHS board¹ and year of report ; as at 31 December 2000

	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Scotland	166	38	29	34	42	26	22	19
Argyll & Clyde	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	1
Ayrshire & Arran	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Borders	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fife	3	-	3	1	1	1	1	-
Forth Valley	3	-	-	2	1	-	1	-
Grampian	3	-	1	1	4	1	1	2
Greater Glasgow	9	8	9	8	8	7	6	4
Highland	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	1
Lanarkshire	1	1	2	-	-	1	2	-
Lothian	108	20	9	13	12	11	4	8
Tayside	34	9	4	8	11	3	6	3

¹ Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

39 | HIV-infected injecting drug users : 1985, 1990, 1995 - 2000¹

age at time of earliest specimen ; as at 31 December 2000

	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Scotland	166	38	29	34	42	26	22	19
Under 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	27	4	-	-	3	-	-	1
20 - 24 years	65	15	3	2	6	3	4	3
25 - 29 years	43	8	8	9	4	6	5	2
30 - 34 years	18	6	11	13	18	6	7	5
35 - 39 years	9	4	6	7	6	8	2	4
40 - 44 years	-	1	1	-	3	3	3	1
45 years and over	-	-	-	3	2	-	1	3
Not known	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Year of report.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

40 | HIV-infected injecting drug users ; gender and vital status

NHS board¹; as at 31 December 2000

	Males		Females		Total	
	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead
Scotland	439	439	210	160	649	599
Argyll & Clyde	5	4	5	2	10	6
Ayrshire & Arran	2	2	2	-	4	2
Borders	1	1	-	-	1	1
Dumfries & Galloway	3	1	2	-	5	1
Fife	14	5	9	3	23	8
Forth Valley	10	5	5	1	15	6
Grampian	14	9	4	2	18	11
Greater Glasgow	70	41	32	26	102	67
Highland	3	2	3	-	6	2
Lanarkshire	9	5	2	1	11	6
Lothian	220	242	116	76	336	318
Tayside	88	122	30	49	118	171

1 Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

41 | HIV-infected persons undergoing immunological monitoring in Scotland - CD4 monitoring : 1992 - 2000¹

number of individuals monitored, NHS board of laboratory²; as at 31 December 2000

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Scotland	959	1 027	1 010	974	941	1 055	1 129	1 212	1 303
Ayrshire & Arran	1	2	2	11	13	15	15	16	22
Grampian	18	31	42	41	46	55	60	60	60
Greater Glasgow	222	249	252	249	238	264	301	336	369
Highland	-	-	1	1	3	5	8	10	14
Lanarkshire	-	-	7	11	8	10	21	21	36
Lothian	564	578	557	540	521	578	592	629	664
Tayside	154	167	149	121	112	128	132	140	138

1 Year of test.

2 The only laboratories which analyse such data are based in the above named NHS boards.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

42 HIV-infected persons undergoing immunological monitoring ; most recent CD4 count and highest level of anti-retroviral therapy

NHS board of laboratory¹, probable/possible route of transmission (persons monitored since 1 January 2000 ; as at 31 November 2001)

	Most recent CD4 count			Highest level of therapy (number of anti-retroviral drugs)							Total
	0 - 200	201-500	501+	Four or more	Triple	Dual	Mono	Other	None	Not known	
Scotland											
Injecting drug user	149	194	101	99	210	28	18	2	53	34	444
Total	362	685	398	331	748	50	26	3	127	160	1 445
Ayrshire & Arran											
Injecting drug user	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6	7	4	6	6	-	-	-	3	2	17
Grampian											
Injecting drug user	1	7	2	2	6	2	-	-	-	-	10
Total	15	37	20	8	49	2	-	-	4	9	72
Greater Glasgow											
Injecting drug user	33	31	26	20	42	3	-	1	15	9	90
Total	103	199	138	123	203	11	3	2	36	62	440
Highland											
Injecting drug user	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total	6	6	1	1	10	-	-	-	1	1	13
Lanarkshire											
Injecting drug user	5	4	3	3	5	-	-	-	3	1	12
Total	11	27	9	8	25	-	-	-	5	9	47
Lothian											
Injecting drug user	83	116	53	73	105	22	15	-	23	14	252
Total	180	340	184	177	352	36	19	-	61	59	704
Tayside											
Injecting drug user	25	36	17	1	50	1	3	1	12	10	78
Total	41	69	42	8	103	1	4	1	17	18	152

1 The only laboratories which analyse such data are based in the above named NHS boards.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

43 HIV-infected injecting drug users undergoing immunological monitoring for the first time ; first CD4 count : 1997 - 2000

NHS board of laboratory¹, year of first CD4 count

	Year of 1st CD4 count	First CD4 count			Total
		0 - 200	201 - 500	500+	
Scotland	1997	15	12	10	37
	1998	11	9	7	27
	1999	14	10	5	29
	2000	7	4	7	18
Ayrshire & Arran	1997	1	-	-	1
	1998	-	-	-	-
	1999	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	-	-
Grampian	1997	-	-	1	1
	1998	1	-	1	2
	1999	-	1	-	1
	2000	-	-	-	-
Greater Glasgow	1997	1	9	3	13
	1998	5	2	1	8
	1999	6	3	-	9
	2000	1	1	6	8
Highland	1997	1	-	-	1
	1998	-	-	-	-
	1999	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	-	-
Lanarkshire	1997	-	-	-	-
	1998	1	-	1	2
	1999	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	1	1
Lothian	1997	7	3	3	13
	1998	1	4	1	6
	1999	4	3	3	10
	2000	5	2	-	7
Tayside	1997	5	-	3	8
	1998	3	3	3	9
	1999	4	3	2	9
	2000	1	1	-	2

1 The only laboratories which analyse such data are based in the above named NHS boards.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

44 | HIV prevalence among injecting drug users having a named HIV test : 1997 - 2000¹

NHS board²

	1997			1998			1999			2000		
	Tests	New positives		Tests	New positives		Tests	New positives		Tests	New positives	
		No.	Prevalence %		No.	Prevalence %		No.	Prevalence %		No.	Prevalence %
Scotland	1 496	24	1.6	2 015	19	0.9	2 429	15	0.6	2 262	16	0.7
Argyll & Clyde	29	-	-	104	-	-	94	-	-	78	-	-
Ayrshire & Arran	28	-	-	43	-	-	58	-	-	78	-	-
Borders	-	-	-	3	-	-	11	-	-	15	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	19	-	-	35	-	-	41	-	-	80	-	-
Fife	1	-	-	19	-	-	43	-	-	42	-	-
Forth Valley	89	1	1.1	100	2	2.0	120	-	-	80	-	-
Grampian	215	1	-	343	-	-	433	1	-	404	1	-
Greater Glasgow	489	8	1.6	731	5	0.7	866	8	0.9	814	5	0.6
Highland	56	2	3.6	52	-	-	64	-	-	53	1	1.9
Lanarkshire	52	-	-	87	1	1.1	111	1	0.9	122	-	-
Lothian	329	2	0.6	335	6	1.8	402	4	1.0	327	5	1.5
Orkney	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland	11	-	-	11	-	-	9	-	-	13	-	-
Tayside	175	10	5.7	150	5	3.3	177	1	0.6	154	4	2.6
Western Isles	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-

1 For each individual tested, only the first test within a calendar year is included.

2 Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

45 Persons reported to be Hepatitis C antibody positive : 1993 - 2000

NHS board¹, probable/possible route of transmission

		Prior to 1993	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (to 30 June)	Total
Scotland	Total	720	522	823	1 123	1 235	1 485	2 017	1 954	1 050	10 929
	Injecting drug user	222	330	447	627	741	848	1 156	1 272	683	6 326
	Other ²	271	59	60	100	77	81	63	68	44	823
	Not known	227	133	316	396	417	556	798	614	323	3 780
Argyll & Clyde	Total	76	16	29	56	51	79	121	161	75	664
	Injecting drug user	11	6	6	24	27	36	88	113	47	358
	Other ²	39	4	3	7	3	5	-	5	3	69
	Not known	26	6	20	25	21	38	33	43	25	237
Ayrshire & Arran	Total	21	8	27	31	35	54	83	121	78	458
	Injecting drug user	7	3	6	10	9	15	36	44	30	160
	Other ²	11	3	6	2	6	3	1	5	1	38
	Not known	3	2	15	19	20	36	46	72	47	260
Borders	Total	9	5	6	12	5	6	5	2	4	54
	Injecting drug user	-	2	4	6	3	4	2	-	1	22
	Other ²	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	6
	Not known	6	2	2	5	2	2	3	2	2	26
Dumfries & Galloway	Total	3	5	18	21	13	22	31	35	36	184
	Injecting drug user	-	2	9	8	6	12	16	18	24	95
	Other ²	3	2	1	3	-	2	4	1	-	16
	Not known	-	1	8	10	7	8	11	16	12	73
Fife	Total	13	11	13	24	48	38	50	58	19	274
	Injecting drug user	2	2	9	17	33	26	36	39	13	177
	Other ²	8	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	-	19
	Not known	3	8	3	6	13	9	12	18	6	78
Forth Valley	Total	27	19	29	40	47	66	88	91	61	468
	Injecting drug user	6	8	13	16	19	23	38	40	27	190
	Other ²	11	1	2	4	-	3	1	2	-	24
	Not known	10	10	14	20	28	40	49	49	34	254
Grampian	Total	28	22	55	143	179	165	236	277	134	1 239
	Injecting drug user	9	8	36	99	136	124	182	193	101	888
	Other ²	12	6	6	16	9	7	10	5	1	72
	Not known	7	8	13	28	34	34	44	79	32	279
Greater Glasgow	Total	187	158	275	384	402	624	892	747	384	4 053
	Injecting drug user	68	97	105	183	225	333	494	570	291	2 366
	Other ²	63	15	14	19	13	29	15	30	23	221
	Not known	56	46	156	182	164	262	383	147	70	1 466
Highland	Total	9	1	7	30	23	51	34	40	12	207
	Injecting drug user	-	-	1	3	9	22	9	27	7	78
	Other ²	6	-	1	8	2	5	2	1	1	26
	Not known	3	1	5	19	12	24	23	12	4	103

1 Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

2 Includes sexual contact, body piercing/tattoo, needlestick, bite, perinatal transmission, and blood factor/blood transfusion risk. Any persons who acquired their infection through blood transfusion will have done so prior to the introduction of Hepatitis C antibody testing of blood donors in 1991.

/ continued

45 Persons reported to be Hepatitis C antibody positive : 1993 - 2000

continued

NHS board¹, probable/possible route of transmission

		Prior to 1993	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (to 30 June)	Total
Lanarkshire	Total	35	16	37	48	78	77	152	115	75	633
	Injecting drug user	4	7	9	22	38	41	81	46	35	283
	Other ²	20	5	1	5	7	2	1	3	-	44
	Not known	11	4	27	21	33	34	70	66	40	306
Lothian	Total	263	198	232	195	252	189	189	195	90	1 803
	Injecting drug user	101	148	183	143	164	128	105	110	63	1 145
	Other ²	71	17	17	17	21	17	16	10	6	192
	Not known	91	33	32	35	67	44	68	75	21	466
Orkney	Total	-	1	-	1	2	1	3	-	-	8
	Injecting drug user	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
	Other ²	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
	Not known	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3
Shetland	Total	3	-	1	3	2	2	3	1	3	18
	Injecting drug user	-	-	-	2	-	1	3	1	3	10
	Other ²	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4
	Not known	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	4
Tayside	Total	44	62	94	135	98	110	130	111	79	863
	Injecting drug user	14	47	66	94	72	81	64	71	41	550
	Other ²	21	4	8	16	12	4	11	5	8	89
	Not known	9	11	20	25	14	25	55	35	30	224
Western Isles	Total	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
	Injecting drug user	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	Other ²	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Not known	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

1 Refers to the person's NHS board of residence or, where this is not known, the NHS board of source of specimen.

2 Includes sexual contact, body piercing/tattoo, needlestick, bite, perinatal transmission, and blood factor/blood transfusion risk. Any persons who acquired their infection through blood transfusion will have done so prior to the introduction of Hepatitis C antibody testing of blood donors in 1991.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

46 Persons reported to be Hepatitis C antibody positive ; probable/ possible route of transmission¹

age group ; to 30 June 2000

	Injecting drug user	Other ²	Not known	Total
Scotland	6 326	823	3 780	10 929
Under 15 years	1	47	18	66
15 - 19 years	295	36	90	421
20 - 24 years	1 239	74	414	1 727
25 - 29 years	1 866	118	745	2 729
30 - 34 years	1 518	136	699	2 353
35 - 39 years	766	110	530	1 406
40 - 44 years	347	102	390	839
45 years and over	179	192	778	1 149
Not known	115	8	116	239

1 Risk group identified at time of earliest positive specimen.

2 Includes sexual contact, body piercing/tattoo, needlestick, bite, perinatal transmission, and blood factor/blood transfusion risk. Any persons who acquired their infection through blood transfusion will have done so prior to the introduction of Hepatitis C antibody testing of blood donors in 1991.

Source : The Scottish Centre for Infection & Environmental Health (SCIEH) - AIDS and HIV-positive registers.

3.6 Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2000

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Background

The data presented here gives information about drug-related deaths in Scotland over the period 1996 - 2000, using a new definition for the baseline figures. The new definition was agreed by a working party set up following the publication, by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD), of a report¹ on 'Reducing drug-related deaths'. It will also be used elsewhere in the United Kingdom. To assist the transition to the new definition, several tables contain data for 1996 - 1999 based on the new approach.

In its enquiry in 1993 into drug abuse in Scotland, the House of Commons Select Committee on Scottish Affairs expressed concern about the quality of available information on deaths resulting from drug misuse. In response to the Select Committee's concern an improved system for collecting information on drug-related deaths in Scotland was introduced in 1994. A paper² published in June 1995 by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) described this revised system, outlined the definitions used, and presented data for 1992, 1993 and 1994. Further short papers, covering data up to 1999, were published in subsequent years.

The system introduced in 1994 uses a specially designed questionnaire, completed by forensic pathologists, for all deaths involving drugs or persons known or suspected to be drug-dependent. Additionally, the GROS follows up all cases of deaths of young people where the information on the death certificate is vague or suggests that there might be a background of drug abuse. A copy of the questionnaire currently used is on [page 64](#).

The definition of a 'drug-related death' is not straightforward. A useful discussion on the definitional problems may be found in an article in the Office for National Statistics publication *Population Trends*³. More recently, a report¹ by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) considered current systems used in the United Kingdom to collect and analyse data on drug related deaths. In its report the ACMD recommended that '*a short life technical working group should be brought together to reach agreement on a consistent coding framework to be used in future across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland*'. GROS was represented on this group and this paper presents information on drug-related deaths using the approach agreed.

The new baseline definition

Whilst the new definition draws on data from the same sources, i.e. details from death registrations supplemented by the information described above, it differs in two significant ways from the earlier definition used by the GROS. First, for deaths where habitual drug abuse was not known or suspected, it limits inclusion to those where particular drugs are known to have been involved. Second, it includes deaths from intentional self-harm (suicides).

The new baseline covers the following cause of death categories (the relevant codes from the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD10), are given in brackets):

- a) deaths where the underlying cause of death has been coded to the following sub-categories of 'mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use':
 - (i) opioids (F11);
 - (ii) cannabinoids (F12);
 - (iii) sedatives or hypnotics (F13);
 - (iv) cocaine (F14);
 - (v) other stimulants, including caffeine (F15);
 - (vi) hallucinogens (F16); and
 - (vii) multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances (F19).

b) deaths coded to the following categories **and** where a drug listed under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971) was known to be present in the body at the time of death:

- (i) accidental poisoning (X40 – X44);
- (ii) intentional self-poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (X60 – X64);
- (iii) assault by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (X85);
- (iv) event of undetermined intent, poisoning (Y10 – Y14).

Notes:

1 Deaths coded to mental and behavioural disorders due to the use of alcohol (F10), tobacco (F17) and volatile substances (F18) have been excluded.

2 Deaths coded to opioid abuse (F11), which resulted from the injection of contaminated heroin have been excluded. Also excluded are deaths from AIDS where the risk factor was believed to be the sharing of needles and road traffic and other accidents which occurred under the influence of drugs.

3 Specific rules were adopted for dealing with compound analgesics, which contain relatively small quantities of drugs, listed under the Misuse of Drugs Act e.g. co-proxamol, which contains dextropropoxyphene.

Summary of results using the new baseline

Under the new, more restricted, definition there were 292 drug-related deaths in 2000 and 291 in 1999, some 10 – 15 per cent fewer than under the old definition. [Table 53](#) contains figures for 1996 - 2000 based on the old definition used in earlier papers covering Scotland published by the GROS.

Recent trends

The number of drug-related deaths in 2000 was 292, one more than in 1999 and 48 (20 per cent) more than in 1996. Within these totals, the number of deaths of known or suspected drug addicts fell from 227 in 1999 to 220 in 2000. However, this was still about a quarter more than in 1996 (175). (Figures for 1996 - 2000 using the old definition are given in [Table 53](#)).

NHS board areas

Of the 292 deaths in 2000, 104 (36 per cent) occurred in the Greater Glasgow NHS Board area. Lothian, with 37, Grampian and Argyll & Clyde, both with 31, and Lanarkshire, with 29, had the next highest totals. Over the period 1996 – 2000, [Table 48](#) shows sizeable increases in several of the NHS board areas in Western Scotland contrasting with decreases in Lothian and Tayside.

Because of the relatively small numbers involved, particularly for some NHS board areas, and the possibility that more complete information has been reported in recent years, care should be taken when assessing the trends shown in [Tables 47](#) and [48](#).

Age groups and sex

Most deaths (92 per cent) were of persons aged under 45, with a quarter (25 per cent) aged under 25. Of the 24 cases aged 45 and over, only 6 were known, or suspected, to be drug-dependent. Men accounted for more than four out of five (82 per cent) of the 292 drug-related deaths in 2000.

Types of drug involved

[Tables 51](#) and [52](#) give information on the involvement of selected drugs, either alone or, more commonly, in combination with other drugs. Since the tables record individual mentions of particular drugs they involve double counting of some deaths. It is believed that for the overwhelming majority of cases where morphine has been identified in post-mortem toxicological tests its presence is a result of heroin use. The tables therefore show a combined figure for 'heroin/morphine'.

In 2000, the drugs listed were known to be involved in 259 of the 292 deaths. Heroin/morphine was involved in 196 (67%) of the deaths; diazepam was involved in 146 (50%) of the deaths; and methadone was involved in 55 (19%) of the deaths. A wide range of drug combinations was recorded. Of particular note, was the fact that

diazepam was also mentioned in over half (104) of the 196 deaths involving heroin/morphine. The presence of alcohol was mentioned for 123 of the 292 drug-related deaths in 2000. The blood-alcohol level was not given for all cases but, where mentioned, it was often at a relatively low level. The data for these previous two points is not shown in the tables here.

[Table 51](#) shows that there has been marked increase in the involvement of heroin/morphine, and to a lesser extent diazepam, between 1996 and 2000. However, over the same period there has been a significant reduction in the involvement of methadone.

[Table 52](#) shows some geographical differences in the reported involvement of certain drugs. For example heroin/morphine was mentioned in a much larger proportion (85 out of 104) of the deaths in Greater Glasgow than in Lothian (15 out of 37). Of the benzodiazepines, diazepam was involved in many deaths throughout Scotland but temazepam was involved mainly in the West.

The old GROS definition

In previous years the analyses of drug-related deaths prepared by GROS covered the following categories (the relevant codes from the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD9), are given in brackets):

- i Drug dependence (ICD9 304), excluding solvent abuse (ICD9 304.6);
- ii Accidental poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biologicals (ICD9 E850 - E858); and
- iii Poisoning by solid or liquid substances, undetermined whether accidentally or purposely inflicted (ICD9 E980).

All known suicides were excluded, as were road traffic and other accidents that occurred under the influence of drugs and deaths from AIDS where the risk factor was believed to be the sharing of needles. The categories selected included deaths from occasional or experimental misuse of drugs and accidental overdoses of prescribed medicine as well as some unrecognised suicides. There was no selection based on the type of drug involved. However, to aid interpretation of the figures, tables categorised deaths according to whether drug dependence was known (or strongly suspected) or not known and, for the latter category, sub-groups based on the types of drug(s) involved.

Data for 2000 classified according to the old definition are presented in [Table 53](#). Note that the figures for ‘persons known or suspected to be drug-dependent’ are directly comparable with the figures for ‘drug abuse’ in [Table 47](#).

References

- 1 The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. *Reducing drug-related deaths*. Home Office, 2000.
- 2 Arrundale J and Cole S K. *Collection of information on drug-related deaths by the General Register Office for Scotland*, 1995.
- 3 Christophersen O, Rooney C and Kelly S. *Drug-related mortality: methods and trends*. Population Trends 93, ONS, 1998.

General Register Office for Scotland

Crown Office

Confidential form to be completed in all deaths involving drugs, solvents or poisons

This information is essential for the correct coding and monitoring of drug-related deaths.

If you have any queries about the form or its completion, please contact Graham Jackson, telephone 0131 314 4229.

Please complete the form and return it, in the pre-paid addressed envelope provided, to:

Vital Events Branch
General Register Office for Scotland
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
Edinburgh EH12 7TF

Name of deceased

Date of birth

Date of death

Place of death

Usual residence

Questions (please tick)

1 Was alcohol involved in this death? Yes No Not Known
If "Yes" what was the blood/alcohol level in mg/100ml?

2 If any other drugs or solvents were involved in this death, please specify the **principal** drug or solvent found in a fatal dose
[If NONE go to Question 9]

3 Please specify any other drugs or solvents involved in this death.

4 Was the deceased a known or suspected habitual drug or solvent abuser? Yes No Not Known
[If YES go to Question 7]

5 Was the deceased a novice or experimenting drug or solvent abuser? Yes No Not Known
[If YES go to Question 7]

6 Was there any evidence from the police report or autopsy of a long-standing drug or solvent-abusing history?
Yes No Not Known N/A

7 Do you believe this overdose to have been: accidental
suicidal
homicidal
or unknown/uncertain?

8 Were the drugs prescribed to the deceased? Yes No Not Known N/A

9 Any other comments or information which may help in coding this death?

47 Drug-related deaths ; cause of death : 1996 - 2000

	Scotland	Cause of death category (ICD10 codes)				
		Drug abuse	Accidental poisoning	Intentional self-poisoning	Assault by drugs, etc.	Undetermined
		(F11-F16, F19)	(X40-X44)	(X60-X64)	(X85)	(Y10-Y14)
1996	244	175	10	41	-	18
1997	224	142	14	42	-	26
1998	249	179	16	32	-	22
1999	291	227	12	19	1	32
2000	292	220	11	34	-	27

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

48 Drug-related deaths : 1996 - 2000

NHS board

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Scotland	244	224	249	291	292
Argyll & Clyde	18	16	23	30	31
Ayrshire & Arran	3	6	4	15	20
Borders	2	1	1	-	1
Dumfries & Galloway	4	7	4	7	7
Fife	3	8	13	9	12
Forth Valley	-	4	2	8	4
Grampian	29	22	26	38	31
Greater Glasgow	90	67	93	100	104
Highland	2	3	1	7	1
Lanarkshire	11	12	21	23	29
Lothian	58	48	37	39	37
Shetland	-	-	1	-	1
Tayside	24	30	23	14	14
Western Isles	-	-	-	1	-

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

49 Drug-related deaths ; cause of death : 2000

NHS board

	Scotland	Cause of death category (ICD10 codes)				
		Drug abuse	Accidental poisoning	Intentional self-poisoning	Assault by drugs, etc.	Undetermined
		(F11-F16, F19)	(X40-X44)	(X60-X64)	(X85)	(Y10-Y14)
Scotland	292	220	11	34	-	27
Argyll & Clyde	31	26	1	2	-	2
Ayrshire & Arran	20	13	-	6	-	1
Borders	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	7	4	-	-	-	3
Fife	12	8	-	2	-	2
Forth Valley	4	1	1	1	-	1
Grampian	31	23	-	4	-	4
Greater Glasgow	104	91	3	6	-	4
Highland	1	1	-	-	-	-
Lanarkshire	29	19	3	3	-	4
Lothian	37	25	2	8	-	2
Shetland	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tayside	14	8	1	2	-	3

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

50 Drug-related deaths ; cause of death : 2000

age group and gender

	Total	Cause of death category (ICD10 codes)				
		Drug abuse	Accidental poisoning	Intentional self-poisoning	Assault by drugs, etc.	Undetermined
		(F11-F16, F19)	(X40-X44)	(X60-X64)	(X85)	(Y10-Y14)
Scotland	292	220	11	34	-	27
<i>by age group</i>						
Under 25 years	73	58	3	4	-	8
25 - 34 years	126	106	4	11	-	5
35 - 44 years	69	50	3	6	-	10
45 years and over	24	6	1	13	-	4
<i>by gender</i>						
Males	239	185	10	22	-	22
Females	53	35	1	12	-	5

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

51 Drug-related deaths ; selected drugs involved¹ : 1996 - 2000

	Heroin / Morphine ²	Diazepam	Methadone	Temazepam	Ecstasy	Cocaine
1996	84	84	100	48	9	3
1997	74	93	86	33	2	5
1998	121	113	64	58	3	4
1999	167	142	63	56	8	12
2000	196	146	55	39	11	4

1 Individual deaths often involved more than one of these drugs. The numbers given are mentions of the drug and should not be added to give total deaths.

2 It is believed that for the overwhelming majority of cases where morphine has been identified in post-mortem toxicological tests its presence is a result of heroin use. This table therefore shows a combined figure for 'heroin/morphine'.

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

52 Drug-related deaths ; selected drugs involved¹ : 2000

NHS board

	Heroin / Morphine ²	Diazepam	Methadone	Temazepam	Ecstasy	Cocaine
Scotland	196	146	55	39	11	4
Argyll & Clyde	26	20	7	4	1	-
Ayrshire & Arran	14	11	1	6	-	-
Borders	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	4	4	1	1	-	-
Fife	4	2	5	1	1	-
Forth Valley	4	1	-	1	-	-
Grampian	18	14	8	2	2	-
Greater Glasgow	85	55	14	17	3	3
Lanarkshire	20	11	2	3	2	1
Lothian	15	17	9	2	1	-
Shetland	-	-	1	-	1	-
Tayside	5	11	7	2	-	-

1 Individual deaths often involved more than one of these drugs. The numbers given are mentions of the drug and should not be added to give total deaths.

2 It is believed that for the overwhelming majority of cases where morphine has been identified in post-mortem toxicological tests its presence is a result of heroin use. This table therefore shows a combined figure for 'heroin/morphine'.

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

53 | Drug-related deaths ; old definition : 1996 - 2000

	Scotland	Persons known or suspected to be drug-dependent	Persons not known or not suspected to be drug dependent			
			Opiates etc.	Two or more drugs	One drug	Drug not stated
1996 ^r	270	175	15	9	38	33
1997	263	142	32	18	45	26
1998	276	179	30	7	37	23
1999	340	227	30	7	45	31
2000 ¹	325	220	27	12	55	11

1 Excludes deaths associated with contaminated heroin.

r Revised.

Source : General Register Office for Scotland (GRO Scotland).

