

# Publication Report



## **Findings from the 5<sup>th</sup> Balance of Care / Continuing Care Census**

**Census held 30 September 2010**

**Publication date – 14 December 2010**

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## About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

**Purpose:** To deliver effective national and specialist intelligence services to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Scotland.

**Mission:** Better Information, Better Decisions, Better Health

**Vision:** To be a valued partner in improving health and wellbeing in Scotland by providing a world class intelligence service.

## Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

ISD's statistical publications are currently classified as one of the following:

- National Statistics (ie assessed by the UK Statistics Authority as complying with the Code of Practice)
- National Statistics (ie legacy, still to be assessed by the UK Statistics Authority)
- Official Statistics (ie still to be assessed by the UK Statistics Authority)
- other (not Official Statistics)

Further information on ISD's statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the [ISD website](#).

## Introduction

This report presents findings from the 5th Balance of Care/Continuing Care census held on 30th September 2010. Previous censuses were held in September 2008, March 2009, September 2009 and March 2010.

The census covered all patients who clinicians had assessed to meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care (Category A), and certain other patients who did not meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but had been in hospital for over 1 year and for whom no estimated date of discharge had been set (Category B). Further information about the census is provided below and in Appendix 1.

This report presents:

- Summary age/gender information for Scotland, NHS Board of Treatment and Local Authority of Residence, based on both Category A and Category B patients (Tables 1 to 5).
- Specialty, Length of Stay and Location of Care information for Category A patients (NHS Continuing Health Care patients Tables 6 to 8)
- Specialty, Length of Stay and Location of Care information for Category B patients (those that had been in hospital for more than 1 year with no estimated date of discharge, Tables 9 to 11).

## About the census

Previously there has been no method for identifying all patients who were receiving NHS Care that is on-going, non-acute care, delivered as an inpatient, and often over an extended period, either in hospital, hospice or care home. The census aimed to gather information on these patients.

It is intended that information from the census will:

- Support the need for information about shifting the balance of long term care for older people.
- Inform on the application of the NHS Continuing Health Care guidance.

## Shifting the Balance of Care for Older People

The Scottish Government is committed to a shift in the balance of care to ensure that older people are cared for in their own homes or in a homely setting in the community, wherever possible. Information collected by the Scottish Government on Home Care Services and Care Homes will combine with this data to monitor shifts in the balance of care. Data from the census feeds into the Scotland Performs indicator - Increase the percentage of people aged 65 and over with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home (see link below).

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/indicators>

## NHS Continuing Health Care guidance

NHS Continuing Health Care is a package of health care provided and solely funded by the NHS. Patients normally receive NHS Continuing Health Care in a hospital ward, hospice or a contracted inpatient bed within an independent sector provider e.g. Care Home. The

NHS, and not the local authority or individual, pays the total cost of that care. NHS continuing health care may be for prolonged periods but not necessarily for life and entitlement should be subject to regular review.

In February 2008, the Scottish Government issued revised guidance on NHS Continuing Health Care to NHS Boards (see link below).

[http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/mels/CEL2008\\_06.pdf](http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/mels/CEL2008_06.pdf).

## About Data Quality

The following points should be considered prior to drawing conclusions from the data presented.

- **Comparing data between censuses**

It is important to be aware of the following points prior to drawing conclusions from apparent changes in numbers between the three census dates.

NHS Dumfries & Galloway were unable to provide complete data for the September 2008 census due to local operational issues. The data presented for Scotland 2008 therefore applies to 'Scotland, excluding Dumfries & Galloway'.

For both NHS Lothian and Tayside NHS Boards, information from a small number of locations was not in the September 2008 census.

- **Revised data**

Validation of data at both a national and local level has resulted in a small number of changes from previous years. These data are marked as 'Revised' within each relevant table.

- **Presentation of data by Local Authority of Residence**

Information on original residence of the patient continues to improve allowing the derivation of local authority of residence (see Table 4).

- **Future work**

It is important to note that there may be inconsistencies between NHS Boards in the way that data is recorded. SG and ISD continue to work with NHS Boards to improve and maintain the quality and timeliness of data received.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks go to NHS Boards for their continued help in collating this data from local services and for their assistance in monitoring data quality.

## Key points

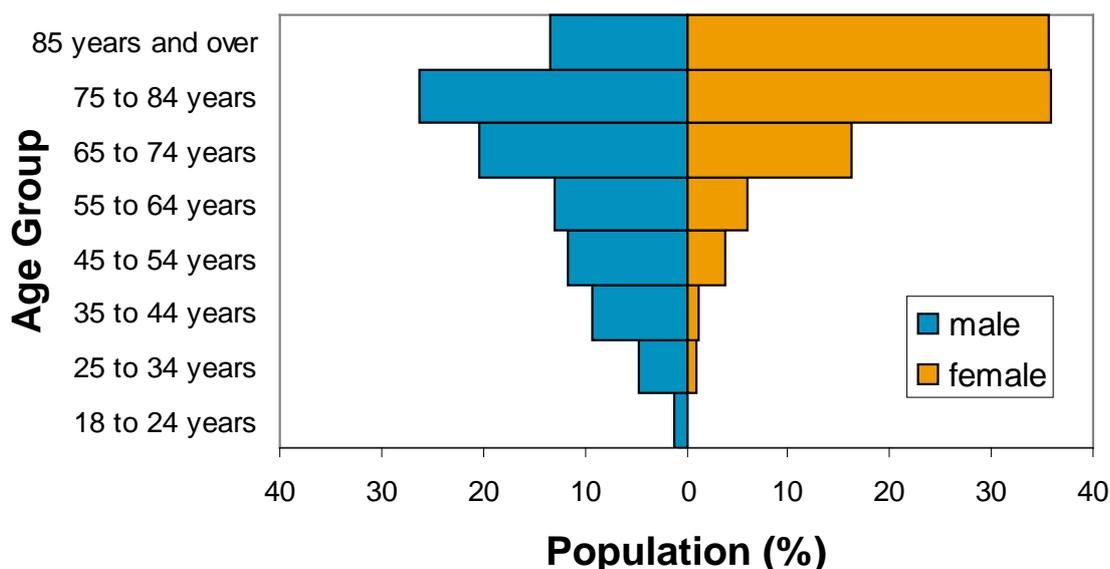
- The number of Category A patients i.e. NHS Continuing Health Care patients decreased from 2495 in March 2010 to 2285 patients in September 2010, a fall of 210 patients (8%). (Table 1)
- The 2285 patients reported as receiving NHS Continuing Health Care in September 2010, corresponds to a European age/sex standardised rate of 29 patients per 100 000 Scottish population. A slightly lower rate to that shown in previous censuses. (Table 5)
- For Category B patients (i.e. patients who do not specifically meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but who have been in hospital for over one year and for whom no estimated date of discharge has been set), 414 patients were reported in March 2010,. This rose to 471 patients in September 2010, a rise of 57 patients (14%). This increase can in part be explained by (i) patients whose status has changed from Category A (in March 2010) to Category B in September 2010 or (ii) patients who had previously been in hospital for less than a year but as at September 2010 their length of stay was over 1 year. (Table 1)

## Results and Commentary

### Number of patients reported, age group and gender ([Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5](#))

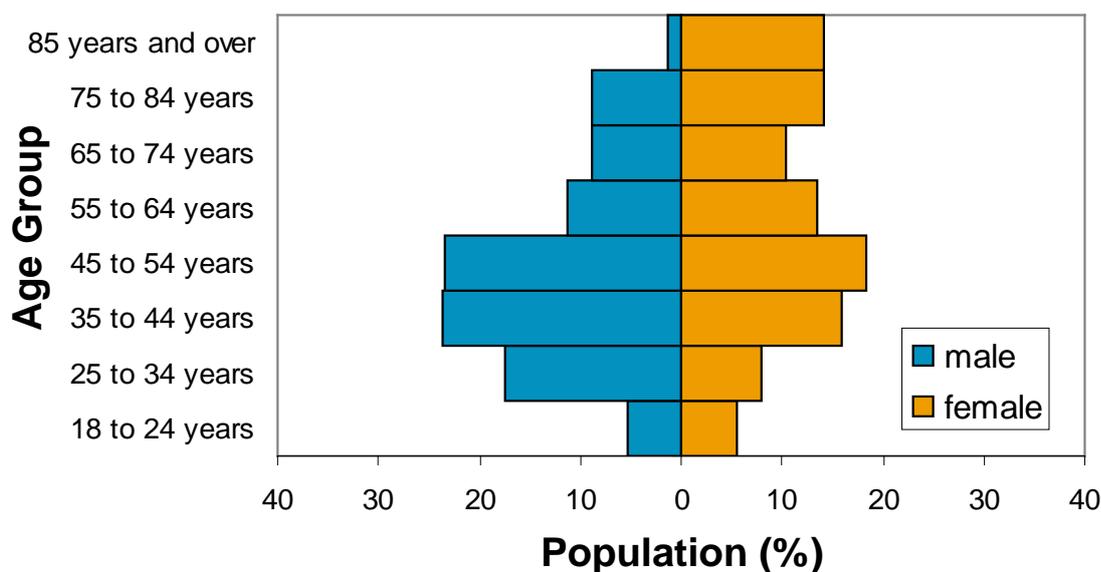
- The number of Category A patients i.e. NHS Continuing Health Care patients decreased from 2495 in March 2010 to 2285 patients in September 2010 a fall of 210 patients (8%). (Table 1)
- All NHS Boards showed a fall in the number of Category A patients. (Table 1)
- For Category B patients (i.e. patients who do not specifically meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but who have been in hospital for over one year and for whom no estimated date of discharge has been set), 414 patients were reported in March 2010,. This rose to 471 patients in September 2010, a rise of 57 patients (14%). This increase can in part be explained by (i) patients whose status has changed from Category A (in March 2010) to Category B in September 2010 or (ii) patients who had previously been in hospital for less than a year but as at September 2010 their length of stay was over 1 year. (Table 1)
- The reported increase in the Scotland figure for Category B patients is not reflected in all NHS Boards. Ayrshire & Arran, Dumfries & Galloway, Highland and Tayside all reported a decrease in the number of Category B patients. (Table 1)
- In September 2010, 48% of the 2285 Category A patients were male, a slight rise from previous census (47% in March 2010). For Category B patients the proportion of males reported remained the same; 65% of patients were male. (Table 2)
- The majority (75%) of Category A patients were aged 65 years and over. This compares to Category B patients where 26% were 65 years and over at the census date. (Table 2). Table 3 shows variation between NHS Health Boards in both Category A and Category B for those aged under 65 years and 65 years & over.
- Figures 1 & 2 present data on age group and gender from the September 2010 Census. They show that the most common age groups for Category A females is 75 years & over and 85 years and over (36% of the 1199 females were aged 75 to 84 years, 36% aged 85 years & over). For males it is 75 to 84 years (26% of the 1086 males). Compared to females, there is a relatively higher proportion of Category A male patients in the younger age groups.

**Figure 1 Percentage of Category A patients in each age group, September 2010**



- For both males and females, the majority of Category B patients were in the 35 to 54 age band. 24% of the 308 males were aged 35 to 44 years, 23% aged 45 to 54 years. For females 16% of the 163 female patients were aged 35 to 44 years, 18% were aged 45 to 54 years. (Figure 2)

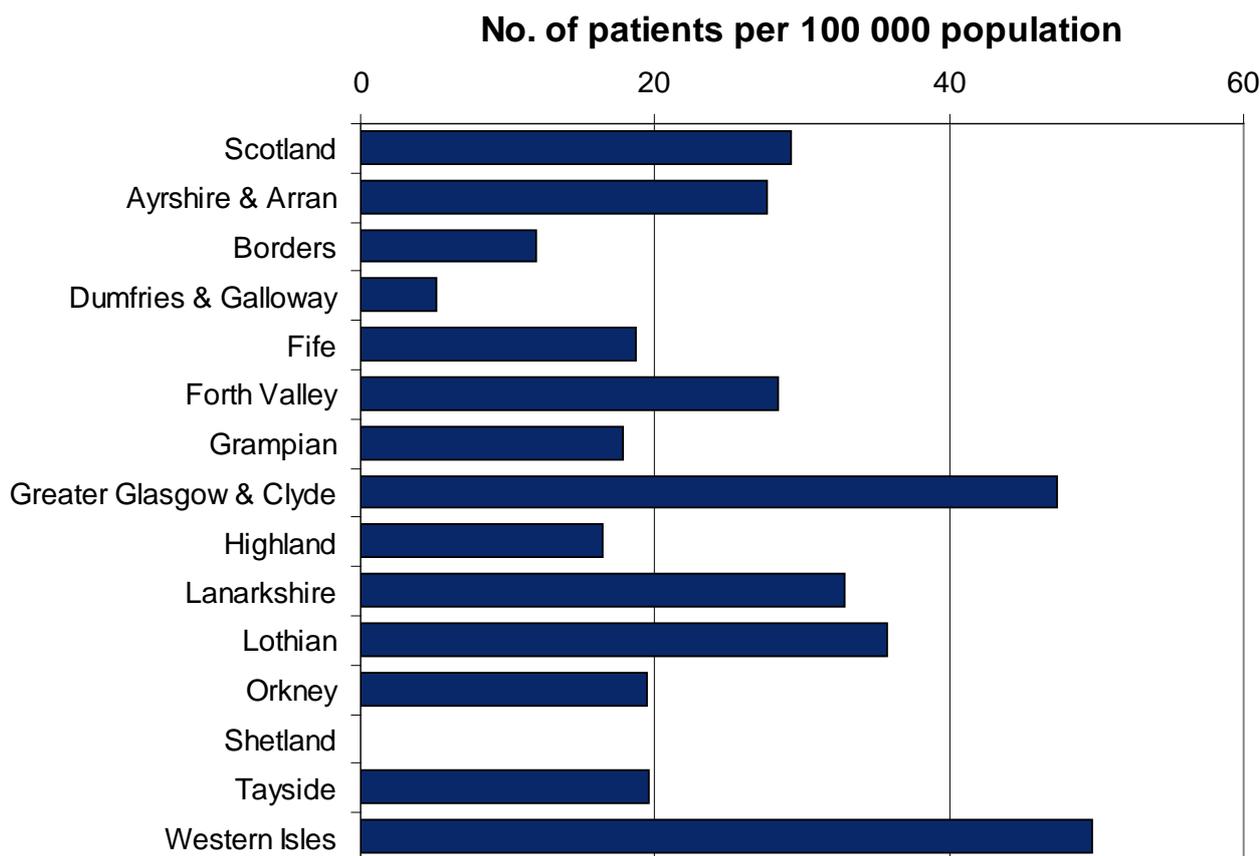
**Figure 2 Percentage of Category B patients in each age group, September 2010**



- The 2285 patients reported as receiving NHS Continuing Health Care in September 2010, corresponds to a European age/sex standardised rate of 29 patients per 100 000 Scottish population. A slightly lower rate to that shown in previous censuses. (Table 5)

- The highest rate per 100 000 population was reported in NHS Western Isles (50 per 100 000 population) followed by NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (47 per 100 000 population). (Table 5, Figure 3).

**Figure 3 Number of Category A Patients expressed as European age/sex standardised rates per 100 000 population, September 2010**

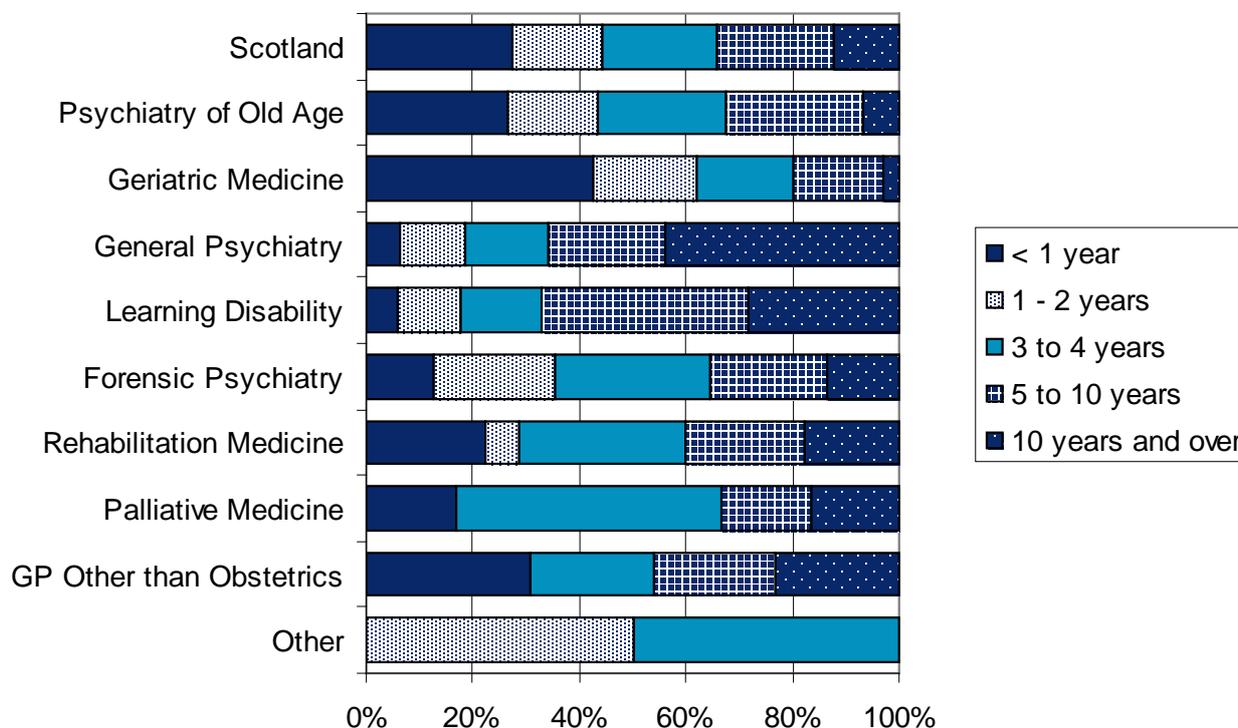


**Specialty, Location of care and Length of stay for Category A patients (Tables 6, 7 and 8)**

- The vast majority of all Category A patients were in Psychiatry of Old Age (41%, 931 patients) and Geriatric Medicine (34%, 767 patients) at the time of the Census. (Table 6)
- Of the 2285 Category A patients, 1783 (78%) were resident in hospital, 480 (21%) in a Care Home and 22 (1%) in other (includes supported housing and domiciliary patients). This is similar to the pattern shown in previous censuses (Table 8)
- The percentage of Category A patients with a length of stay of less than 1 year is similar to that found in March 2010. Of the 2285 Category A patients, 28% had been in hospital/care home for less than 1 year at the time of census, 22% had been in hospital/care home for between 5 and 10 years, a further 12% had been in hospital/care

home for 10 years or more. (Table 7) Figure 2 shows the variation in length of stay for each specialty.

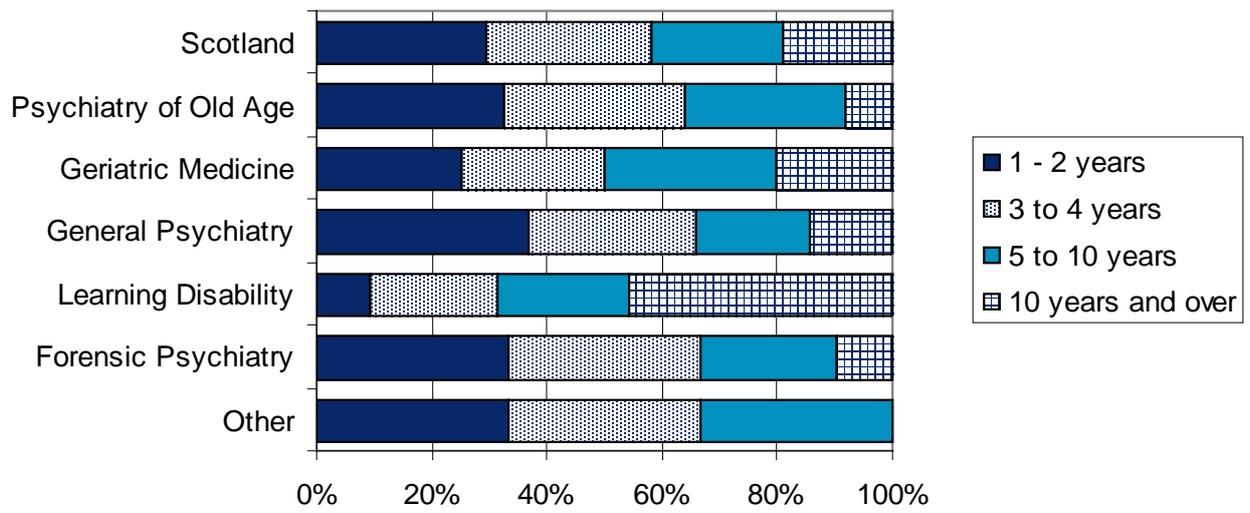
**Figure 4 Length of Stay and Specialty for Category A patients, September 2010**



**Specialty, Location of care and Length of stay for Category B patients (Tables 9, 10 and 11)**

- For Category B patients, the most common specialty was General Psychiatry (45% of the 471 patients), Learning Disability (20%) and Psychiatry of Old Age (18%). (Table 9)
- Of the 471 Category B patients, 454 (96%) were resident in hospital. An additional 17 patients (4%) were located in care homes (includes NHS Beds on a contracted basis). There were no Category B patients located in the Other location type. (Table 11)
- 30% of all Category B patients in September 2010 had been in hospital/care home for between 1 to 2 years at the time of census, 23% had been in hospital/care home between 5 and 10 years, 19% for 10 years or more. (Table 10) Figure 3 shows the variation in length of stay for each Specialty.

Figure 5 Length of Stay and Specialty for Category B patients, September 2010



## List of Tables within Workbook

Table	Name	Time period	File & size
<b>Workbook</b>	<a href="#">CC_sep10_tables.xls</a>	<b>See below</b>	<b>Excel [149kb]</b>
table1	Number of Patients in Category A1 and B2 by NHS Health board of Treatment.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table2	Number of Patients in Category A1 and Category B2 by Gender and Age Group.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table3	Patients aged 65 years and over and Under 65 years, by NHS Health board of Treatment.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table4	Number of Patients aged under 65 years and 65 years and over by Local Authority of Residence.	September 2010	
table5	Number of Patients in Category A1 by NHS Health board of Treatment with European Age-Sex Standardised Rate <sup>2</sup> per 100 000 population.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table6	Specialty of Category A1 patients, by NHS Health Board of Treatment.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table7	Length of Stay for Category A1,2 patients by Specialty.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table8	Location of carer for Category A1 patients by Specialty.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table9	Speciality for Category B1 patients, by NHS Health Board of Treatment.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table10	Length of Stay for Category B1,2 patients by Specialty.	September 2008 to September 2010	
table11	Location of carer for Category B1 patients, by Specialty.	September 2008 to September 2010	

## Contact

**Elaine Parry**

Principal Analyst

[Elaine.Parry@nhs.net](mailto:Elaine.Parry@nhs.net)

0131 275 6655

**Anne Stott**

Senior Analyst

[Anne.Stott@nhs.net](mailto:Anne.Stott@nhs.net)

0131 275 6820

## Further Information

Further information can be found in the on the [ISD website](#)

## Appendix

### A1 – Background Information

The patients who were included in the census were:

Category A: Patients who are receiving NHS Continuing Health Care as a result of a decision made under the terms of the guidance referred to on page 1 of this report. Note that although NHS Continuing Health Care may be provided in a hospital ward it may also be provided on a contractual basis in a hospice or care home.

Category B: Patients who do not specifically meet the criteria for NHS Continuing Health Care but who have been in hospital for over one year and for whom no estimated date of discharge has been set.

The following data items were collected:

- Location Code
- Location Name
- CHI Number
- Patient Identifier (If CHI unavailable)
- Patient Name
- Gender
- Date of Birth
- Date of Admission
- Ethnicity
- Specialty
- Patient's postcode of residence

NHS Boards were instructed to carry out the census on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010. However, if there was local benefit in undertaking the national census on a date other than the 30<sup>th</sup> September NHS Boards could select a date up to 3 calendar days prior to the census date.

Under no circumstances could NHS Boards undertake the census outwith these timescales.

## **A3 – Early Access details (including Pre-Release Access)**

### **Pre-Release Access**

Under terms of the "Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics (Scotland) Order 2008", ISD are obliged to publish information on those receiving Pre-Release Access ("Pre-Release Access" refers to statistics in their final form prior to publication). The standard maximum Pre-Release Access is five working days. Shown below are details of those receiving standard Pre-Release Access and, separately, those receiving extended Pre-Release Access.

#### **Standard Pre-Release Access:**

- Scottish Government Health Department
- NHS Board Chief Executives
- NHS Board Communication leads

#### **Extended Pre-Release Access**

This extended Pre-Release Access is given to a small number of named individuals in the Scottish Government Health Department (Analytical Services Division). This Pre-Release Access is for the sole purpose of enabling that department to gain an understanding of the statistics prior to briefing others in Scottish Government (during the period of standard Pre-Release Access).

- Scottish Government Health Department (Analytical Services Division)