**Respiratory Medicines Optimisation Dashboard**

**Did you know…?**

NHSBSA has released a clinically approved Respiratory Medicines Optimisation Dashboard, which is now available in ePACT2.

**What does the Respiratory Medicines Optimisation Dashboard do?**

The dashboard highlights the variation in respiratory prescribing across CCGs in England. CCGs and local health economies can use this data at a local level to ascertain how their area is performing, and determine how they may wish to address this.

The Respiratory Medicines Optimisation Dashboard uses the rich source of prescribing data available to NHSBSA. It has been developed through NHSBSA collaboration with the National Respiratory Dashboard Task and Finish Group, a team of national respiratory specialists, who have agreed specific areas of focus with the aim of improving health outcomes for patients with respiratory conditions. These are represented in the dashboard as seven metrics, each with its own page view.

**The Metrics**

The Respiratory Medicines Optimisation Dashboard displays the following metrics:-

* High dose ICS[[1]](#endnote-1) items as a % of all ICS items: Identifying the level of high dose ICS prescribing for all ICS products.
* Inhaled steroid prevention, including ICS LABA[[2]](#endnote-2): Identifying the proportion of patients receiving 5 or fewer prescription items for ICS products, including ICS LABA, within a rolling 12-month period.
* Prescribing of Montelukast: Identifying the level of prescribing for Montelukast, in relation to the number of patients identified on the asthma register.
* Prescribing frequency of Prednisolone 5mg tablets: Prescribing of Prednisolone 5mg tablets to patients, where quantity prescribed per item was less than or equal to 60 tablets. Results identify the total number of prescription items prescribed, with each item relating to a quantity of 60 tablets or fewer, and can be used as an indicator of the number of rescue packs issued per person.
* Prescribing of smoking cessation products: Identifying the prescribing of smoking cessation products, including nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) and varenicline and bupropion. Results identify the total number of prescription items prescribed for any smoking cessation product in relation to the recorded number of smokers.
* Excess SABA[[3]](#endnote-3) prescribing: Results identify the total number of patients prescribed 6 or more SABA inhalers, who were also prescribed preventer inhaler but not prescribed antimuscarinic. Figures presented as a proportion of all patients prescribed a preventer inhaler without an antimuscarinic (to attempt to exclude COPD[[4]](#endnote-4) patients).
* Patients on triple therapy: Results identify the total number of patients prescribed triple therapy, based on receiving LAMA[[5]](#endnote-5), LABA and ICS inhalers.

**How do I know how my CCG is performing?**

You can choose a reporting period for your CCG in each of the seven metrics. Your CCG’s performance will be displayed in the dashboard in a number of graphical presentations:

* Results for individual practices within the CCG - this highlights the variation between practices.
* Results for CCGs in relation to other CCGs.
* Trend results showing the data across multiple time periods to allow trends to be identified.

To allow more focused comparisons there is functionality to select various grouping levels which will only display CCGs within the selected structure (i.e. Regions, STP Footprints, and AHSNs etc.)

**How do I get access to the Respiratory Dashboard?**

The dashboard is available in ePACT2, an online application giving authorised users access to prescription data. If you don’t have access, and you wish to register for ePACT2, please email nhsbsa.registration@nhs.net

**We’d love to hear from you…**

A number of specific areas of prescribing have been selected in the first iteration of this respiratory dashboard. These are based on the specialist opinion of the working group involved in its development. We are planning to develop this dashboard further and welcome your comments for the inclusion of other clinical areas to focus on in future iterations.

Your feedback is very important to us, and we would like to hear about your experience of using the dashboard as well as any suggestions for improvement. Please forward your feedback to: nhsbsa.informationsystems@nhs.net

1. Glossary of terms:

 ICS - Inhaled Corticosteroid [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. LABA - Long Acting Beta-2 Agonist [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. SABA - Short Acting Beta-2 Agonist [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. COPD – Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. LAMA – Long Acting Muscarinic Antagonist [↑](#endnote-ref-5)