eWIN OVERVIEW

NHS North West

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NATIONAL GENERAL PRACTICE PROFILES

National General Practice (GP) Profiles are designed as a tool to support GPs, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and PCTs to ensure that they are providing and commissioning effective and appropriate healthcare services for their local population.

The profiles can be accessed via the Public Health Observatories website at www.apho.org.uk/pracprof/

Using a variety of graphical displays such as spine charts and population pyramids, the tool presents a range of practice-level indicators drawn from the latest available data, including:

- local demography

- Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) domains

- disease prevalence estimates

- admission rates

- patient satisfaction.

In addition to viewing individual practice profiles you can view summary profiles for CCGs. Each practice can be compared with the PCT, CCG and England, and also with the practice deprivation decile and 'peer group' (for explanation see the Supporting documents).

The profiles do not provide an exhaustive list of primary care indicators, but they do allow a consistent approach to comparing

and benchmarking across England. New indicators for 2012 included practice-weighted population and EQ5D scores (proportion of people reporting ANY problem). More indicators will be incorporated as the tool is developed further.

Each practice can be compared with the PCT and CCG nationally, and also with the practice deprivation decile and 'peer group'. This allows a consistent approach to benchmarking across England.

Data is sourced from: the Attribution Dataset 2012, Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010, NHS Patient Satisfaction Survey (2011-12), Quality and Outcomes Framework (2011-12), Erpho prevalence models (revised November 2011) and NHS Comparators (latest available complete year data)

Profiles use three standard deviation statistical process control limits (99.8% confidence limits)

January 2013- range of indicators expanded to include ChiMat Child Health Profiles (http://www.chimat.org.uk/profiles)

In the following months indicators from the National Cancer Intelligence Network GP practice profiles for cancer will be included.

Practice inclusion criteria: Practices must be located in England, exist in QOF and list size > 300

Click on the image to the right to access a user guide for the profiles

Caution is required when interpreting profiles, in the following areas:

- **Focusing on individual indicators is misleading:** Any provisional conclusions drawn from the profiles should be triangulated with other sources of information, both quantitative and qualitative.

- **Understanding the context is essential:** demographic information and an awareness of any long term conditions in a practice, such as diabetes, is extremely important in interpreting the profile

- **QOF limitations:** QOF collects 'crude' prevalence rates. A crude rate makes no allowance for the age and sex structure of the practice population; it also means that it is not appropriate to rely too heavily on comparisons

- **Variation**: understanding variation is important to avoid the misinterpretation of any numerical measurement, small changes in count can lead to wide variance in the rate

- **Publication of small numbers (<6) is not permitted**; therefore any such values have been suppressed