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Phríomh-Oifig
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Central
Statistics
Office

Standard Report
on Methods and Quality for
**HSE Funded Treatments
and Claims**
2013–2017

Standard Report on Methods and Quality for HSE Funded Treatments and Claims

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
2013-2017

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The explanatory information can be deleted when data is input into each section

1 Overview

The HSE Funded survey series use Primary Care Reimbursement service (PCRS) data to produce official statistics on HSE Funded Treatments and Claims. The PCRS is the part of the Health Service Executive (HSE) that processes payments to all of the GPs, pharmacists, opticians and other health professionals who provide free or reduced cost services to the public. The data is gathered on patients who are covered under the General Medical services scheme (GMS), the Community Ophthalmic Services Scheme (COSS), the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS).

Thereleases, HSE Funded Dental Treatments, HSE Funded Optical treatments, HSE Funded Pharmacy claims and HSE Funded GP claims, contains details of these PCRS treatments and claims. Data is available from 2013 to the present calendar year-1. i.e. if the current calendar year is 2019, then data is available from 2013-2018. Data published in these releases corresponds to the treatments and/or claims which were carried out in the corresponding calendar year.

2 General Information

2.1 Statistical Category

Administrative data

2.2 Area of Activity

Health

2.3 Organisational Unit Responsible, Persons to Contact

Directorate: Social and Demographic
Division: Social Analysis

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2.4 Objectives and Purpose; History

The purpose of this survey is to produce official annual statistics on PCRS data. Information on PCRS claims and treatments

2.5 Periodicity

The data is gathered throughout the year by the HSE and provided to the CSO annually for the previous calendar year. Releases are produced annually from these data sets.

2.6 Client

The data is gathered by the HSE to keep a record of claims and treatments. The CSO publishes these figures for national interest.

2.7 Users

- General Public
- Other departments
- Researchers

2.8 Legal basis

Activities of the CSO are governed by the Statistics Act 1993.

3 Statistical Concepts, Methods

3.1 Subject of the Statistics

The release covers figures corresponding to patient treatments, claims, and PCRS expenditure.

3.2 Units of Observation/Collection Units/Units of Presentation

Each observation in the data sets corresponds to a treatment or claim. There can be multiple claims or treatments that correspond to one patient. Units published include treatments, claims, and patients.

3.3 Data Sources

PCRS data is sourced from the HSE.

3.4 Reporting Unit/Respondents

Each observation in the data sets corresponds to a treatment or claim. There can be multiple claims or treatments that correspond to one patient.

Units published include treatments, claims, and patients.

3.5 Type of Survey/Process

This data is sourced from administrative data gathered by the HSE.

3.6 Characteristics of the Sample/Process

3.6.1 Population and Sampling Frame

Not applicable

3.7 Survey Technique/Data Transfer

Data is collected by the HSE and provided to the CSO's Administrative Data Centre (ADC) through a VPN (virtual private network).

3.8 Questionnaire (including explanations)

Not applicable

3.9 Participation in the Survey

Not applicable

3.10 Characteristics of the Survey/Process and its Results

These reports cover treatments and/or claims, patient demographics and PCRS expenditure.

3.11 Classifications used

- Not applicable

3.12 Regional Breakdown of Results

Results are broken down by Local Health Office Region as follows:

Local Health Offices

Dublin Mid-Leinster	Dublin South Dublin South East	Dublin North East	Dublin North West Dublin North Central
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	Dublin South City Dublin South West Dublin West Kildare / West Wicklow Wicklow Laois / Offaly Longford / Westmeath		Dublin North City Cavan / Monaghan Louth Meath
West	Galway Mayo Roscommon Donegal Sligo / Leitrim Clare North Tipperary / East Limerick Limerick	South	South Lee Cork North Lee Cork West Cork Kerry North Cork Carlow / Kilkenny Waterford South Tipperary Wexford

4 Production of the Statistics, Data Processing, Quality Assurance

4.1 Data Capture

When a medical professional claims for treatments covered by a PCRS scheme, the data is recorded by the HSE.

4.2 Coding

Coding of data is based on information received from the HSE via the secure VPN. SAS formats are used to apply labels to the codes for aggregate data and tables etc

4.3 Data Editing

Checks are carried out to ensure counting rules have been applied correctly to the data.

4.4 Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

No imputation methods are applied to this data.

4.5 Grossing and Weighting

Not applicable.

4.6 Computation of Outputs, Estimation Methods Used

Not applicable.

4.7 Other Quality Assurance Techniques Used

Not applicable.

5 Quality

5.1 Relevance

This data is accessed and relevant to:

- Other departments
- General Public
- Researchers

5.2 Accuracy and Reliability

5.2.1. Sampling Effect & representivity

Not applicable.

5.2.2. Non-Sampling Effects

Not applicable

5.2.2.1 Quality of the Data Sources used (other than survey register)

Not applicable

5.2.2.2 Register Coverage

Not applicable

5.2.2.3 Non-response (Unit and Item)

Not applicable

5.2.2.4 Measurement Errors

Not applicable

5.2.2.5 Processing Errors

Not applicable

5.2.2.6 Model-related Effects

Not applicable

5.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

5.3.1 Provisional Results

Not applicable.

5.3.2 Final Results

All PCRS data recorded by the HSE have the potential to be revised. Late claims from the previous year can appear in the following year's data set. This can happen due to late claims.

This is administrative data that is usually updated annually (between March and May for the previous calendar year). There is no fixed time frame in which to produce the release but the CSO aims to produce an update on the figures annually, usually in the following November/December.

5.4 Coherence

There are some differences between figures presented in this release, and releases composed by the HSE. These figures are not comparable. CSO figures are calculated from a claim records data set, while HSE figures are calculated from a claim record and expenditure data set.

5.5 Comparability

There are some differences between figures presented in this release, and releases composed by the HSE. These figures are not comparable. CSO figures are calculated from a claim records data set, while HSE figures are calculated from a claim record and expenditure data set.

5.6 Accessibility and Clarity

5.6.1 Assistance to Users, Special Analyses

The HSE Funded releases are available on the CSO website, and include detailed notes on the information supplied.

5.6.2 Revisions

Updates to information provided in previous years' releases will be supplied in certain tables.

5.6.3 Publications

5.6.3.1 Releases, Regular Publications

Releases in this series include:

HSE Funded Dental Treatments

HSE Funded Optical Treatments

HSE Funded GP Claims

HSE Funded Pharmacy Claims

5.6.3.2 Statistical Reports

Health data is included in national publications such as the Statistical Yearbook of Ireland.

5.6.3.3 Internet

The release is available on our website:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/health/>

5.6.4 Confidentiality

All data are treated as strictly confidential in accordance with the Statistics Act, 1993.

6 Additional documentation and publications

The HSE publish their own figures on their website located on their website at:

<https://www.sspsr.ie/portal/annual-reporting/report/annual> Please note, there are some differences between figures presented in this release, and releases composed by the HSE. These figures are not comparable. CSO figures are calculated from a claim records data set, while HSE figures are calculated from a claim record and expenditure data set.