

CCG FORMULA: SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO DATE AND OUTSTANDING ISSUES

1. This paper sets out for the 2013-14 CCG formula the recommendations agreed by ACRA and the issues outstanding following its 3 July meeting. The paper does not cover the work areas which are part of ACRA's longer term work programme, such as unmet need.

Action for ACRA

2. This paper is provided for information.

ACRA's recommendations

3. There have been no changes to ACRA's interim recommendations of last Autumn. These were:
 - the Nuffield person based formula should be used for the general and acute component of the CCG formula;
 - the GP practice list based version of the RAMP prescribing formula should be used for the prescribing component;
 - the CARAN maternity formula should be used for the maternity component. CARAN adopted a cost per birth approach using MSOA data for the explanatory variables, and we will have to attribute these explanatory variables from MSOAs to GP practices;
 - the population base is GP registered lists;
 - priority needs to be given by the Department and PCTs, and in the future the NHS Commissioning Board, to work to ensure registered lists are accurate and continue to be accurate.
4. Since last Autumn ACRA has considered an adjustment for unregistered patients and concluded:
 - due to the absence of reliable data on the number of unregistered patients and their health care needs, in the short term the most suitable approach is to reimburse actual costs borne by CCGs. There should be guidance and conditions developed by the NHS Commissioning Board on how a reimbursement system operates and clear incentives for the unregistered to be registered.

The Nuffield and RAMP formulae are based on GP practices as extant at the time the research was undertaken. Some new GP practices will have been formed since the research was undertaken and we will not have available some of the explanatory variables for these new practices, such as past diagnoses of their patients as used in the Nuffield model. We will need to attribute values for these GP practices,

5. using for example the CCG average by age-gender group or a simple regression across GP practices.

Outstanding issues

6. The only outstanding issue for the 2013-14 formula is agreeing the mental health component, which is covered in a separate paper for the September ACRA meeting.

Department of Health

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