

30 November 2016

Dear Andy Williams,

Mandatory Request for QOF Pilot 11

I am writing to NHS Digital to formally request, under section 255(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act), that NHS Digital establishes and operates a system for the collection and analysis of information relating to Quality Outcome Framework (QOF) Pilot 11.

NICE is a principal body, as listed in section 255(9) of the Act and as such this is a mandatory request. In accordance with section 257(4) of the Act, NICE has consulted with NHS Digital before making this request.

NICE considers that the information obtained by complying with this request is necessary or expedient for us to have in relation to the discharge of our duty to develop general practice indicators suitable for inclusion in the QOF. The dissemination of the information will be in connection with the provision of health services or adult social care in England, specially the powers conferred under s261(1) ('Other dissemination of Information') of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Background

NHS Digital has been required by the Department of Health and NHS England to support the development of new QOF indicators by providing NICE with QOF pilot data extractions since 2009. The purpose of this piloting is to try and understand how potential indicators work in general practice and whether or not these indicators have any unintended or adverse consequences. QOF piloting is used to assess the effectiveness of indicators that are being piloted as these pilot indicators may go on to be included in future iterations of QOF and this is dependent on the outcome of the pilot and further negotiations.

NHS Digital is requested to collect and analyse the QOF Pilot 11 data as listed below. NHS Digital is then requested to send the data to the National Collaborating Centre for Indicator Development, which is made up of staff from the University of Birmingham and the York Health Economics Consortium (YHEC). NICE has commissioned staff at the National Collaborating Centre for Indicator Development to develop and review clinical indicators for QOF Pilot 11.

The data to be collected

Aggregated level data (i.e. counts of patients broken down by general practice) will be extracted for a number of indicators from different clinical areas (note that the indicators included in the two pilots are different). 26 general practices in England will be included in the data extraction and there will be three extractions in total: 1) Baseline, 2) Mid-term and 3) Final.

For QOF Pilot 11, the data to be collected comprise 16 indicators covering the following 8 clinical areas:


1. Post-natal Mental Health
2. Atrial Fibrillation
3. Pulse Monitoring
4. Diabetes Prevention
5. Gestational Diabetes
6. Autism
7. Multimorbidity
8. Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)

Please see Annex A for details of the indicators.

In line with patient rights contained within the NHS Constitution and the Directions from the Secretary of State to NHS Digital concerning patient objections, NHS Digital will ensure it respects the rights of individual patients to request that their confidential information is not used beyond their own care and treatment and to have their objection considered. Type 1 opt-outs will be upheld when extracting the primary care data. Type 2 opt-outs do not apply as only aggregated non-confidential data will be collected by NHS Digital.

Please accept this as a request under section 255(1) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Professor Gillian Leng CBE
Deputy Chief Executive
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence