The NHS Information Centre is England’s central, authoritative source of health and social care information.

www.ic.nhs.uk

Author: The NHS Information Centre, Community and Mental Health team

Responsible Statistician: Claire Thompson, Principal Information Analyst

Version: 1.0

Date of Publication: 16th December 2011
Contents

Contents 3
Executive Summary 4
   Key facts from this publication: 4
   Background 5
Executive Summary

This is the first publication of information from the Mental Health Minimum Data Set (MHMDS) version 4 (v4), a new version of the dataset implemented in April 2011. The dataset was changed to address the recommendations of the Mental Health Information Review undertaken by the NHS Information Centre in 2008, to better reflect the current configuration of services, and to support the introduction of Payment by Results for mental health.

A new method has been developed to process MHMDS v4 data and this first set of reports from this new system are considered experimental as assurance of the new process is not yet complete.

The release also includes data from the Community Mental Health Activity (Community MHA) Omnibus return (ROCR/OR/0243/004MAND) which is published here for the first time. It is possible that elements of this set of reports will be produced from MHMDS v4 in future.

The purpose of this routine quarterly MHMDS reports is to provide Department of Health (DH), Mental Health services, commissioners and members of the public with information about NHS funded specialist mental health services for adults in England. The MHMDS reports include some indicators that are part of the DH’s performance framework for mental health trusts. Only indicators 12 and 13 from the indicators outlined by the DH are included in this first release of data from the new system because the assurance of the system is not yet complete.

MHMDS data analysed in these reports flows directly from Mental Health providers but the information for Community MHA is collected from commissioners using the NHS IC Omnibus online collection system. Both the MHMDS and the Community Activity return are mandatory data returns.

The majority of MHMDS providers submitted data successfully (see below) and all 151 Primary Care Trusts submitted Community MHA data.

The Department of Health have revised their indicator constructions for 2011/2012 and the new constructions can be found at the link below:


Key facts from this publication:

This first release of experimental MHMDS Q1 provisional data, April 2011 to June 2011:

- 60 providers were successful in submitting data via the new mechanism for the MHMDS. A small number of providers were unable to meet the Q1 submission deadline. In most cases this was due to local systems not being ready to support the new data format.
- There has been a large increase in the number of records compared to Q4 2010/2011; 50% of providers had an increase of at least 20% in their number of records. The reasons for this are being investigated as part of ongoing assurance of the new system, however there is some anecdotal evidence that the previous way of processing MHMDS, using the ‘assembler’ produced fewer records than expected, so this could be an improvement in data quality.
- Overall the data quality for key elements of the dataset included in this release was very high with at least 70% of trusts achieving at least 80% valid coding for each item.

In Q2 July 2011 to September 2011 (for Community MHA only):

- The number of home treatment episodes year to date was 64,174;
- The number of assessments by Crisis Resolution teams year to date was 127,105;
- The number of patients receiving Home Treatment year to date was 54,703
- The number of patients being treated by Early Intervention teams in quarter 2 was 21,650
- The number of people receiving Assertive Outreach services in quarter 2 was 20,233.

Background

The MHMDS is a regular return of data generated by providers of adult secondary mental health services in the course of delivering services to patients. From Q1 2010/11, the MHMDS also includes data from Independent Sector Organisations and is processed using the new system. Full details of the methods used in processing can be found in the MHMDS Version 4 User Guidance and Appendices.

The MHMDS dataset is received by the NHS Information Centre as record level anonymised data from patient administration systems, Care Programme Approach systems and Mental Health Act administration systems.

More information on the MHMDS can be found on the NHS Information Centre website at:
www.ic.nhs.uk/services/mhmds/spec

The Information Standards Notice for MHMDS version 4 can be found on the Information Standards board website at:

The Community Mental Health Activity collection is collected via the Omnibus system and more information about the collection can be found at:

Future developments

It is intended that other indicators and reports that are currently collected via other returns will be recreated using the MHMDS. This is in line with the Fundamental Review of Data Returns initiative and indicators, such as the ones currently collected in the Community Mental Health Activity return, are ones which may be recreated using MHMDS as the data source.

Further assurance of the system is required before the figures can be confirmed in the next release.

Consultation

A review of statistics that are produced using the MHMDS will shortly be undertaken. This is to ensure that the information published nationally, at service level and commissioner level meets the needs and requirements of all our customers. We expect to be launching the consultation in February 2012 to find out what users of these statistics would find most helpful.

‘Provisional’ and ‘Final’ statistics

1 http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_129725
Published data that is labelled as "Provisional" is the Primary, i.e. the first, submission that is made regarding a collection. It is possible for some data sets to make a "Refresh", i.e. a second, submission. Data that is published under the label "Final" is a combination of both the Primary and Refresh submissions. Where a Refresh submission is made the Primary submission is not be used. If a Refresh submission is not made then the Primary submission will be used. This ensures the most complete and latest picture for a data set.