

## **Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Risk Assessment data collection Quarter 1 (April to June) 2013/14**

### **1. Background**

The VTE risk assessment data collection was first made mandatory from June 2010, and this publication refers to data for April to June 2013.

VTE is a significant international patient safety issue. The first step in preventing death and disability from VTE is to identify those at risk so that preventative treatments can be used. The purpose of this data collection is to quantify the numbers of adult hospital admissions who are being risk assessed for VTE to allow appropriate prophylaxis based on national guidance from NICE<sup>1</sup>. Such measures have the potential to save many lives each year.

All providers of NHS funded acute care (including foundation trusts and independent sector providers of acute NHS services) must complete this data collection. Providers of non-acute health services are not asked to complete this data collection, although they should be aware that all patients should be protected from unnecessary risk of VTE.

This data collection is a census of all patients – it is not appropriate to use sampling methodologies to produce estimates. This data collection also serves as the mechanism to enable providers to demonstrate to their commissioners that they have achieved the national CQUIN goal on VTE in 2013/14<sup>2</sup>.

This data collection on VTE risk assessment is intended to embed VTE risk assessment across the NHS and will be critical in evaluating the impact of the National VTE Prevention Programme on improving health outcomes for patients.

### **2. How the statistics are produced**

The data collection asks for three items of information:

1. Number of adults admitted as inpatients in the month who have been risk assessed for VTE on admission to hospital using the criteria in the National VTE Risk Assessment Tool
2. Total number of adult inpatients admitted in the month
3. Calculated from (1) and (2), the percentage of adult inpatients, admitted within the month assessed for risk of VTE on admission

#### *Nil returns*

- Providers are required to provide information based on a census of patients. Providers who submit data based on a sample or audit of patients are not included in

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<sup>1</sup> The NICE guidance can be found at the following link: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG92>

<sup>2</sup> Further information about the CQUIN framework is available at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/cquin-guidance.pdf>

the figures below, and are classed as a “nil return”. Providers who did not have any admissions in a particular month are also classed as a ‘nil return’.

Data are submitted and published according to the timings below:

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Process</b>
Month A (e.g. April)	Data are collected from patients in each provider for that month.
Month B (e.g. May)	Providers submit their data monthly for the previous month (e.g. April data are submitted towards the end of May).
Month C (e.g. June)	Data for month A (April) are quality assured and made available to UNIFY users after the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of the month (e.g. April data are available after the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of June).
Month D (e.g. July)	Data for month A (April) are published in the NHS England website in the beginning of the month (e.g. April data are published in early July)
Early every September, December, March, June	Publication of reports for Quarters 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively, on the NHS England website

Providers must collect and submit data onto UNIFY 2 by 20 working days after the month end. The full data tables can be found: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/vte/>

Guidance on the data collection is included in the 2013/14 CQUIN guidance and can be found at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2013/02/cquin-guidance.pdf>

## Findings

### *Number of data returns*

- The number of data returns submitted by providers of NHS funded acute care had reached 316 by the end of Q1 2013/14, slightly down from 318 in Q4 2012/13. In Q1 2013/14 153 separate returns were received from Independent Sector (IS) providers. This is slightly lower than the 155 returns in the previous quarter (Q4 2012/13). The number of NHS acute care providers submitting a data return in the quarter was 163, similar to 162 in Q4 2012/13.

### *Proportion of total admissions getting a risk assessment*

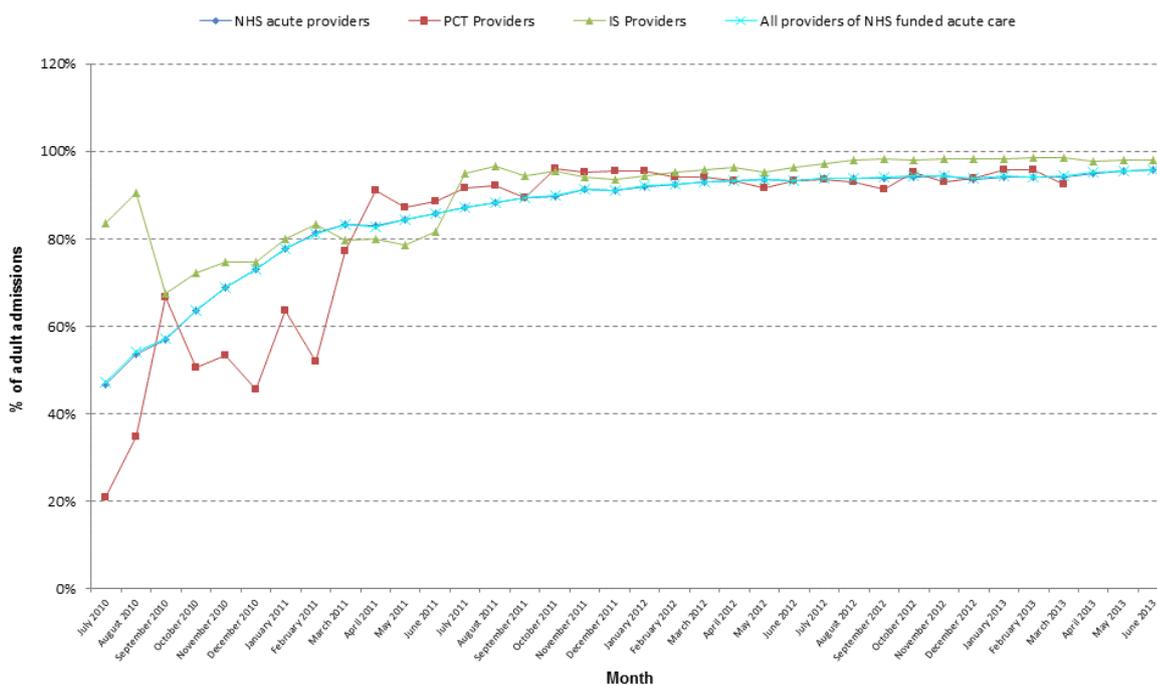
- Over the period Q1 2013/14, providers reported around 3.4 million admissions to NHS funded acute care. Of these, 95% received a VTE risk assessment on admission, a slight increase compared to 94% in Q4 2012/13 – see Table 1.
- In Q1 2013/14, the proportion of admissions receiving a VTE risk assessment was slightly lower for NHS acute care providers (95%) than IS providers (98%), with NHS acute care providers carrying out around 97% of all VTE risk assessments.

Table 1. Proportion of adult hospital admissions risk assessed for VTE (Q1 2013/14, England)

	April 2013	May 2013	June 2013	Q1 2013/14
NHS acute care providers	95.1%	95.4%	95.7%	95.4%
IS Providers	97.8%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%
<b>All providers of NHS funded acute care</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>95.7%</b>	<b>95.4%</b>

- A chart showing the proportion of adult admissions risk assessed for VTE since July 2010 is shown below (see Figure 1). There has been a steady increase in the proportion in all providers of NHS funded acute care, from 47% in July 2010 to around 96% in June 2013.

Figure 1. Proportion of adult hospital admissions risked assessed for VTE (Q1 2013/14, England)



- At NHS Region level, performance varied from 96.3% in the North of England and London to 97.1% in the Midlands and East of England during Quarter 1 2013/14. Overall, all the regions achieved the 95% goal in this quarter – see table 2.

Table 2. Proportion of adult hospital admissions risk assessed for VTE by NHS Region (Q1 2013/14, England)

<b>NHS Region</b>	<b>Percentage of admitted patients risk-assessed for VTE Q1 2013/14</b>
North of England	96.3%
Midlands and East of England	97.1%
London	96.3%
South of England	96.7%

*Proportion of providers above and below 95% of admissions receiving a VTE risk assessment*

- In Q1 2013/14, 82% of the providers carried out a VTE risk assessment for 90% or more of their admissions – see table 3. These proportions are lower for NHS acute care providers than for Independent Sector providers, but NHS acute care providers are responsible for 97% of the admissions.

Table 3. Providers reporting above and below 95% of admissions receiving a VTE risk assessment (Q1 2013/14, England)

	<b>All providers</b>		<b>NHS acute care providers</b>		<b>IS providers</b>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
90%-95%	48	15%	40	24%	8	5%
Below 95%	58	18%	43	26%	15	10%
95% and above	259	82%	122	74%	137	90%

#### **4. Additional Information**

Data for individual organisations are available at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/vte/>

For press enquiries please e-mail the NHS England media team at [nhs.cb.media@nhs.net](mailto:nhs.cb.media@nhs.net) or call **0113 825 0958 / 0113 825 0959**

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