

GMS IT – QMAS Getting ready for the end of year

Guidance for PCTs and practices

This bulletin brings you an update of current QMAS activity and provides important guidance with regard to practice list sizes and the National Prevalence Day. It is intended for all QMAS users at the NHS Bank, SHAs, PCTs and all GMS and PMS practices participating in the quality and outcome framework (QOF).

The purpose of QMAS

Quality Management and Analysis System (QMAS) accurately calculates points, pounds, prevalence and weighted list size in accordance with the Statement of Financial Entitlements and is linked to the NHAIS 'Exeter' Payment System. It provides PCTs and practices with access to the same information about QOF quality achievement against aspiration, estimated relative prevalence and current achievement payment whenever they wish.

For all QMAS Bulletins and Guidance notes visit: <http://www.npfit.nhs.uk/programmes/qmas>

QMAS Update

In December 2004 QMAS will be updated to include functionality to allow practices to enter aspiration data and for PCTs to agree the aspiration for a practice. SHAs were given access to view SHA level QOF summary reports and PCT level QOF achievement reports within their authority.

For information on GP Clinical System Supplier roll out status visit:
http://www.nhsia.nhs.uk/sat/testing/pages/gp_clinical.asp

Practice List Size

From April 2005, a practice will receive QOF achievement payments based on practice list size, achievement data and aspiration data held on QMAS. Correct clinical, organisational achievement and aspiration data for a practice needs to be on QMAS before the end of the QOF period i.e. 31 March 2005. Therefore, the practice list size needs to be correct as at the end of Quarter 3 2004, i.e. 31 December 2004.

The list size that QMAS uses is provided to QMAS from the Exeter system which is managed by PCT Payment Agencies.

The Exeter system will take a practice list size count on 1 January 2005 from individual GP clinical systems. This list size will be used to calculate Global Sum and QOF achievement payments. Practices should ensure that their list sizes are correct and up-to-date by 31

December 2004. Those practices who do not have Registration links need to allow time for the necessary documentation to be manually updated during December by their local Health Authorities.

National Prevalence Day – 14 February 2005

For those practices that automatically send QMAS data each month, a snapshot of all QOF disease registers will be taken on 14 February 2005 and used to calculate the national disease prevalence.

If you do not have an automatic feed into QMAS these data will have to be entered manually via QMAS web-forms. These forms will be accessible in QMAS from 14 February to 21 March. After this time, practices will not be able to enter their QOF disease register information and therefore this information will not be included in the National Prevalence Day calculations.

For the QMAS Training website visit: <http://www.qmastraining.nhs.uk>

What practices need to do

1. During December practices need to ensure that their list size is correct and make sure their registration links are up-to-date. This must be complete by 31 December 2004. If a practice is uncertain they should contact their PCT who can then investigate further with their PCT Payment Agency.
2. Practices need to ensure that their QOF disease registers are validated and complete.

To find out how to check your practice list size, visit the QMAS Training website: <http://www.qmastraining.nhs.uk>
