

Welcome to the eighth update from the Department's Payment by Results (PbR) team. The purpose of these updates is to keep colleagues in the NHS and other interested parties informed throughout the year about our team's work.

It would be helpful for us to know how useful these updates are, and so we would welcome any comments, which should be directed to our mailbox in the first instance – pbrcomms@dh.gsi.gov.uk. Please put 'Update feedback' in the subject line of your e-mail.

Preparation of the 2012-13 tariff

The sense check phase of our tariff development cycle has now concluded. Through this exercise we worked with our advisory groups and a number of individuals and organisations to check the draft tariff for any anomalies, perverse incentives or unintended consequences.

The PbR team wishes to thank those who participated in this exercise. We have reviewed all feedback received during sense check and have now published the 2012-13 tariff and draft guidance for 'road test.' Details, including an introductory letter from David Flory are available on our website [here](#).

Mental Health

We invited comments on the draft mental health guidance, which was published in October for sense checking. Thank you to the many organisations who gave us feedback. As a result of this, we have tried to provide more clarity on non-contract activity, payment periods, initial assessments, exclusions, and cluster 0, as well as many minor changes. We have also

added a checklist of actions that will need to be undertaken by April 2012 to prepare for mental health PbR in annex G. This will be added to in the final PbR package, setting out what needs to be achieved during 2012-13.

A PbR mental health Quality and Outcomes Indicators report has been published [here](#). This report describes the progress made to date in responding to the request from the National Project Board for Mental Health PbR to develop an approach that ensures quality indicators and outcome measures are an integral part of the PbR process, and in particular that they encourage the correct incentives.

A report summarising the work undertaken by the Forensic and Challenging Behaviour Product Review Sub Group over the past 12 months has been published [here](#).

In addition, mental health factsheet no 18, has also been published, and is available [here](#).

Best Practice Tariffs (BPTs)

The best practice tariffs for 2012-13 were consulted on as part of the annual PbR sense-check exercise, and we reviewed and acted on the feedback received. BPTs for 2012-13 are included in the road-test package available [here](#).

The DH website has been further updated to include additional information on BPTs in place for 2011-12, available [here](#).

Ambulance Services

We have mandated the use of currencies for commissioning ambulance emergency and urgent services from April 2012. Further

details will be published in PbR guidance when final 2012-13 PbR arrangements are announced.

HIV Adult Outpatients

The HIV National Reference Group has continued to develop the HIV outpatient currency.

With effect from 2012-13, an HIV adult outpatient currency will be introduced in the NHS in shadow form. This will allow providers and commissioners to ready themselves for the introduction of the proposed currency and a new clinical dataset – the HIV and AIDS Reporting System (HARS)

A simple guide to the HIV currency will be published on the PbR website shortly.

For additional information on HIV please see [here](#).

Sexual Health

The PbR development team will be establishing a National Reference Group to build on work already undertaken to develop an integrated sexual health national currency. The National Reference Group will bring together a wide contribution from stakeholders to review existing proposals and extend the work further. The intention is to work towards introducing a national currency in shadow form to the NHS in 2013-14.

For additional information on developing PbR for sexual health, please see [here](#).

Costing and cost collection

Publication of national schedules, the reference cost index (RCI), and source data relating to 2010-11 reference costs took place on 17 November, two months earlier than last year. For details, please see [here](#).

The results of the 2011 survey of all NHS providers regarding their implementation of patient level information and costing systems (PLICS) is available on our website [here](#).

Thank you to those who offered feedback on the draft reference cost collection guidance for 2011-12. We anticipate publication of the final guidance in January 2012.

High Cost Drugs and Devices

The final date for proposals to be considered for exclusion (and inclusion) to PbR in 2012-13 has passed. However, the request portals will remain on the DH website for any requests for 2013-14 to be submitted.

For high cost drugs see [here](#).

Chemotherapy has a separate portal [here](#).

For high cost devices see [here](#).