



Welcome to the May 2011 edition of the North West Public Health Observatory (NWPHO) Health E-News bulletin.

There have been significant changes in the NWPHO over the last few months and following reductions in funding for 2011/2012 we said goodbye to a number of staff at the end of March 2011.

During the current transition period whilst PHO functions are being transferred to Public Health England, the NWPHO will have an increased focus on the delivery of national products related to our lead areas of alcohol, drugs, violence and dental health, for example the Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE).

Our NWPHO work programme will form part of a single

national work programme for the network of Public Health Observatories agreed by the Department of Health. In addition, the NWPHO will continue to deliver locally commissioned work.

Although the Association of Public Health Observatories has been formally dissolved, the intelligence resources available on the APHO website (www.apho.org.uk) will continue to be accessible during this period of transition until the new public health system for England is established.

We hope that you find the information in this edition valuable. Please contact us if you think that we may be able to support your public health intelligence needs.

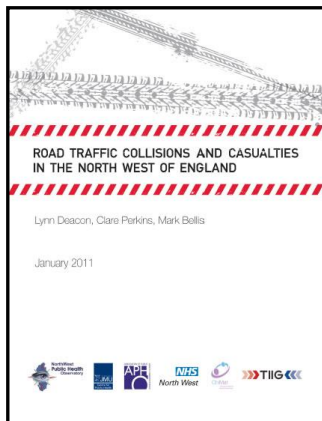
NORTH WEST ROAD TRAFFIC CASUALTY FIGURES PROMPT CALL FOR ACTION

Research published by NWPHO has highlighted the high number of road traffic casualties in the North West and has prompted calls for local discussions to improve safety for road users and pedestrians.

The North West has the highest road traffic casualty rates in England and in total over 29,000 people are injured on the region's roads each year. Of these casualties, more than 3,000 are seriously or fatally injured, including over 400 children up to the age of 15.

The study, which brings together wide-ranging data from the police, the ambulance service, hospital and death records, also reveals considerable differences between local areas within the North West.

Over four-fifths of child casualties occur on roads that have a speed limit of 30 mph, and statistical modelling shows that up to 140 killed or seriously injured child casualties could be saved each year if 20 mph speed limits had been applied in these areas.



Dr Ann Hoskins, Director of Children's Services at NHS North West who commissioned the report commented, "There are many interventions that have had, and will continue to have, an impact on reducing road traffic collisions and casualties. For example, the national debate for a 20 mph speed limit has attracted considerable attention and the work undertaken as part of this report presents compelling evidence that lives could have been saved and injuries reduced if 20 mph limits had been introduced in identified residential areas.

"... Our hope is that this intelligence will support local decision making and planning and so further reduce the risk of death or injury to our children and young people."

View online:

[Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties in the North West of England](#)



The World Health Organisation (WHO) launched the United Nations' Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 on Wednesday 11 May 2011 which aims to reduce the 1.3 million road deaths and 50 million injuries across the world each year.

For further information visit the [Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 website](#)

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Contributions of Alcohol Use to Teenage Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Infections



Levels of alcohol related problems in young people are escalating as evidenced by recent reports of sharp rises in alcohol related liver disease in younger populations. Alcohol consumption is also linked to poor sexual decision-making.

Until now, the two issues have not been examined together on a national basis. This report examines whether those areas where more teenagers are being admitted to hospital with alcohol related problems are also the areas where young people have more sexual health related problems (e.g. chlamydia and other sexually transmitted infections, teenage pregnancies, and abortions).

Even after taking account of poverty related effects the report found:

- Areas of the country where teenage (aged 15-19 years) hospital admission for alcohol in girls is high also have higher levels of births to teenage girls, as well as incidents of chlamydia and genital warts in both boys and girls in the same age range.
- Areas where boys were more likely to be admitted into hospital as a result of alcohol misuse were also more likely to see more births to teenage girls and more sexually transmitted infections (of any type) in teenage boys and girls.

View online: [Contributions of Alcohol Use to Teenage Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Infections](#)

GP Practice Profiles

Demography and patient satisfaction

Indicator	Practice Value	PCT Value	England Average	England Worst	England Range	England Best
% aged 0 to 4 years	5.0%	5.0%	5.9%	0.0%		16.9%
% aged 5 to 14 years	10.8%	10.2%	11.2%	0.0%		28.9%
% aged under 15 years	15.7%	15.2%	17.1%	0.0%		42.6%
% aged 65+ years	22.5%	21.0%	15.8%	45.2%		0.0%
% aged 75+ years	9.4%	10.2%	7.5%	26.5%		0.0%
% aged 85+ years	2.3%	2.9%	2.1%	12.0%		0.0%
Deprivation score (IMD 2007)	13.5	17.3	21.7	68.9		2.6
IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children)	0.14	-	0.24	0.80		0.03
IDAOPI (Income Deprivation Affecting Older People)	0.14	-	0.22	0.74		0.05
% satisfied with phone access	73.8%	66.7%	64.7%	12.1%		96.2%
% able to see a doctor within 2 days	93.2%	80.8%	80.1%	0.0%		100.0%
% able to book appointment >= 2d ahead	90.3%	70.5%	69.5%	0.0%		100.0%
% satisfied with opening hours	82.6%	78.9%	79.4%	43.5%		100.0%
% able to see preferred GP	78.1%	73.1%	71.4%	0.0%		100.0%

Launched on 31st March 2011, General Practice Profiles are designed to assist GPs, GP consortia and PCTs in ensuring that they are providing and commissioning effective and appropriate healthcare services for their local population.

The tool is the first of its kind to allow GPs to compare the health needs and outcomes of their practice with any chosen cluster of practices.

The profiles include national comparator data and are presented using spine charts to help make comparisons.

The profiles, produced by the Association of Public Health Observatories are a set of 158 general practice level indicators that have been developed for practices across England. The indicators cover practice population, deprivation, patient satisfaction, the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF)

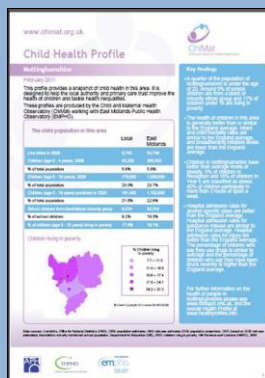
and hospital activity levels in selected clinical areas.

The profiles are not aimed at the general public, although they are publicly available.

View online: [GP Practice Profiles](#)

Child and maternal health updates

Local Authority Child Health Profiles launched for the North West



A Child Health Profile has been developed for each local authority as part of the national Child and Maternal Health Observatory's (ChiMat) work with NWPHO to improve outcomes for children and tackle health inequalities.

They contain data on a wide range of issues about and affecting child health, from MMR immunisation rates, levels of childhood obesity, teenage pregnancy and underage drinking, to bullying, hospital admissions, educational performance and youth crime.

View online: [Child Health Profiles](#)

For more information about ChiMat email - l.k.deacon@ljmu.ac.uk

Children with long-term conditions in the North West: emergency admissions for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy. This report is accompanied by a summary report for each PCT area in the North West. The reports detail emergency hospital admission rates, emergency bed day rates and average lengths of stay for children admitted to hospital with a primary diagnosis of these long-term conditions. They provide information at a local level, highlighting variations, and present comparator information including potential cost savings to inform commissioning for children's services.

View online: [Children with long-term conditions in the North West: emergency admissions for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy](#)

Mental wellbeing further analysis

Four reports containing further analysis from the North West Mental Wellbeing Survey 2009 have just been released.

North West Mental Wellbeing Survey: Employment and resilience explores the impact of employment, unemployment, and redundancy on people's resilience and mental wellbeing.

North West Mental Wellbeing Survey : What influences wellbeing? identifies the most significant factors that determine wellbeing and life satisfaction. Its findings impact on a range of areas of public policy.

North West Mental Wellbeing Survey: Profiles of wellbeing data cluster analysis of five segments of wellbeing – lifestyle, age, health, health behaviours and financial situation. These findings could provide deeper understanding of lifestyles when designing services and evaluating their reach.

Focus on ethnicity highlights the differences in wellbeing and some of the drivers of wellbeing between different ethnic groups.

All reports can be viewed online: www.nwpho.org.uk

Drug misuse

Our expert team has an international reputation for developing drug and alcohol surveillance systems, evaluating interventions, reviewing evidence and delivering research. They have also pioneered an integrated monitoring system which provides a detailed picture of drug use and users, in addition to highlighting treatment effectiveness and care pathways.

View our recent publications: [Structured alcohol treatment in the North West of England 2009/10 - Results from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System \(NDTMS\)](#) and [Patterns of mortality amongst individuals in contact with structured drug and alcohol treatment services in the North West of England](#)

Violence prevention

Analysis of emergency hospital admissions data for England has shown that the likelihood of admission for violence is over five times greater for those people from the poorest communities compared with those from the wealthiest areas. Hospital admission for violence peaks at age 18, when the absolute difference between deprivation quintiles is greatest. However the largest rate ratios between rich and poor occur in childhood and later adulthood.

The findings suggest that poorer children are exposed to much more aggressive communities, which is likely to contribute to the disproportionate escalation in violence they experience during adolescence.

View online: [Injury Prevention Journal](#)

Dental health

Each year the NHS Dental Epidemiology Programme for England (NHS DEP) conduct a rolling programme of dental epidemiological studies focusing on different groups, for example, oral health surveys of five-year-old children in 2007/08 and 12-year-old children in 2008/09. For 2010/11, Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) were given the opportunity to define the focus of their dental survey. Some SHAs have chosen to use existing methodologies within the programme to look at, for example, adults with learning disabilities, or patients attending out of hours services.

The North West has opted to instigate longitudinal caries surveys during this time, starting with three-year-olds attending child care sites within the region. The survey will measure the prevalence and severity of dental caries in three-year-old children to provide a baseline for comparison in subsequent years and establish a cohort for follow-up. This study will improve knowledge about caries progression in pre-school years and inform commissioners about the timing and impact of interventions.

The survey is currently underway and results will be available online at www.nwph.net/dentalhealth by the end of this year.

News from other PHOs...

Compendium of Population Health Indicators (COPHI)

The contract between the Association of Public Health Observatories and the NHS Information Centre (IC) for the presentation of the COPHI was terminated by the IC with effect from 30th April 2011 due to financial constraints. The NHS IC advised that it is "developing its strategy and business plan for 2011-12, in line with the new Health and Social Care Bill and last year's Government White Papers and Department of Health Arms Length Body review report. As part of this process, the systems for presenting indicators and other types of information are being reviewed. The NHS IC is committed to continue providing all of the indicators featured in the Compendium."

Cardiovascular Disease Profiles for England

Led by the South East Public Health Observatory (SEPHO) on behalf of the Department of Health's Vascular Programme, these profiles bring together a detailed picture of the burden of cardiovascular diseases, whilst enabling comparison across regions and local areas against a number of indicators, including: incidence, mortality, treatments and costs. View online: [Cardiovascular Disease Profiles for England](#)

Regional Diabetes Champions

As part of recent developments, each regional PHO now has a designated Diabetes Champion to help strengthen links within and across the Diabetes Intelligence Hub and Spoke Network. Jenny Mason, Diabetes Champion for the North West can be contacted on 0151 231 4535 or j.j.mason@ljmu.ac.uk

Briefing papers

The National Obesity Observatory (NOO) has produced the following briefing papers. View online: [Measuring diet and physical activity in weight management interventions](#) and [Data Sources: environmental influences on physical activity and diet.](#)

National End of Life Care Intelligence Network

The South West Public Health Observatory (SWPHO) has released several reports recently:
[Deaths Registered as Occurring 'Elsewhere'](#) - uses Office for National Statistics mortality data to examine deaths that are registered as occurring 'elsewhere' and how they vary by age and sex.
[External Causes of Death](#) - examines variations in death from 'external' causes by age, cause and sex. External causes include injuries, poisoning, falls, self harm and assault.
[Predicting Death: Estimating the proportion of deaths that are 'unexpected'](#) - compares the estimated number of unexpected deaths that vary depending on the data source. It also highlights the importance of predicting death for those commissioning end of life care services.

Variation in Elective Surgical Procedures across Wales

Public Health Wales Observatory has published a new report showing variation in elective surgical procedures across Wales. It shows operation rates for procedures such as tonsillectomies and removal of wisdom teeth for each health board and local authority area, compared with the Welsh average. View online: [Variation in Elective Surgical Procedures across Wales](#)

Health Inequality Indicators for Local Authorities

Produced by East Midlands (EMPHO) and London (LHO) Public Health Observatories, these indicators provide data on health inequalities within each local authority and county council in England. The statistics present the slope index of inequality in life expectancy for males and females with summaries provided for each area. View online: [Health Inequality Indicators for Local Authorities](#)

Spend and Outcomes Tool (SPOT)

The Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory (YHPHO) has published the latest update of SPOT to include the latest programme budgeting data and outcome indicators for the period 2009/10. The tool and factsheets allow users to gain an overview of outcomes and expenditure across all programmes. View online: [Spend and Outcomes Tool](#)

Marmot indicators

The London Health Observatory (LHO) and the Marmot Review Team have produced baseline figures for some key indicators of the social determinants of health, health outcomes and social inequality that correspond to the indicators proposed in The Marmot Review of Health Inequalities. View online: [Marmot Indicators for Local Authorities in England](#)

Coming soon from NWPHO...

Synthetic estimates of increasing risk and higher risk drinkers - commissioned by the Department of Health, updates of the 2005 hazardous and harmful drinking synthetic estimates for local authorities (LA) in England will be produced modelled on the Integrated Health Surveys for England 2006 to 2010.

Further analysis on North West Mental Wellbeing 2009 Survey – Focus on Cannabis

Data updates from NWPHO....

LAPE (Local Alcohol Profiles for England)

The North West Public Health Observatory has published NI39 alcohol-related hospital admissions annual data for Q3 2010/11 produced by the Department of Health on the LAPE website. View online: [LAPE \(Local Alcohol Profiles for England\)](#). Annual update expected July 2011.

North West Life Expectancy by Cause (updated February)

This interactive tool that charts life expectancy by cause data for all North West local authorities is updated annually. This latest update includes measure for 2007-2009. View online: [North West Life Expectancy by Cause](#)

About the North West Public Health Observatory (NWPHO)

NWPHO fulfils a regional public health information and intelligence function supporting the work of public health professionals, local authorities and providers of healthcare and further services relevant to the health of the North West population. NWPHO's lead areas are alcohol, substance use, violence, dental health and working with the Health Protection Agency. Visit www.nwpho.org.uk to view our reports and data tools.