

Scottish Multiple Sclerosis Register National Report 2019

Figures from January 2010 – December 2018

A Management Information publication for Scotland

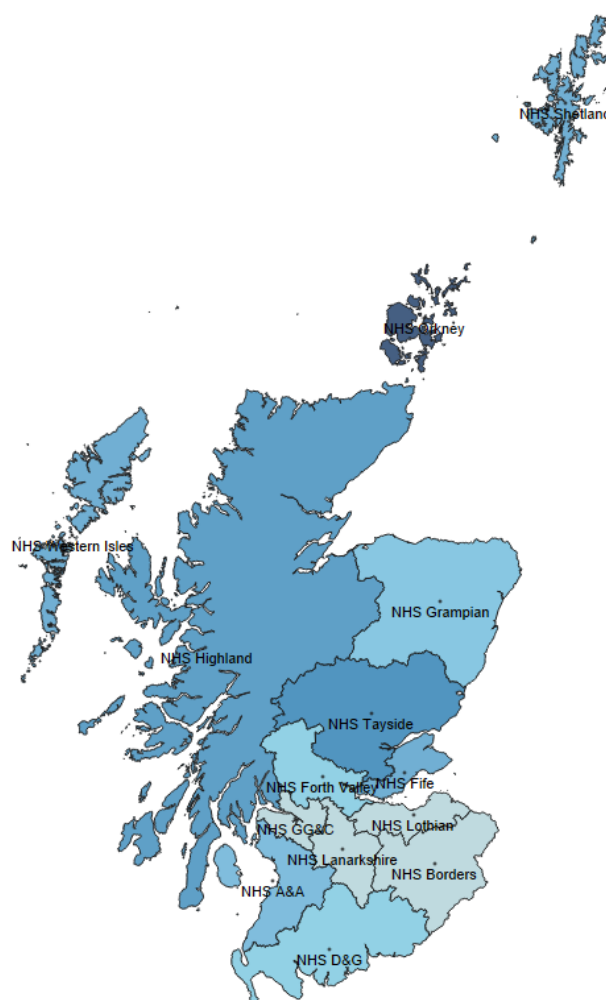
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About this release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides information from the Scottish Multiple Sclerosis Register (SMSR) on all patients diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) from January 2010 to December 2018 as confirmed by a neurologist.

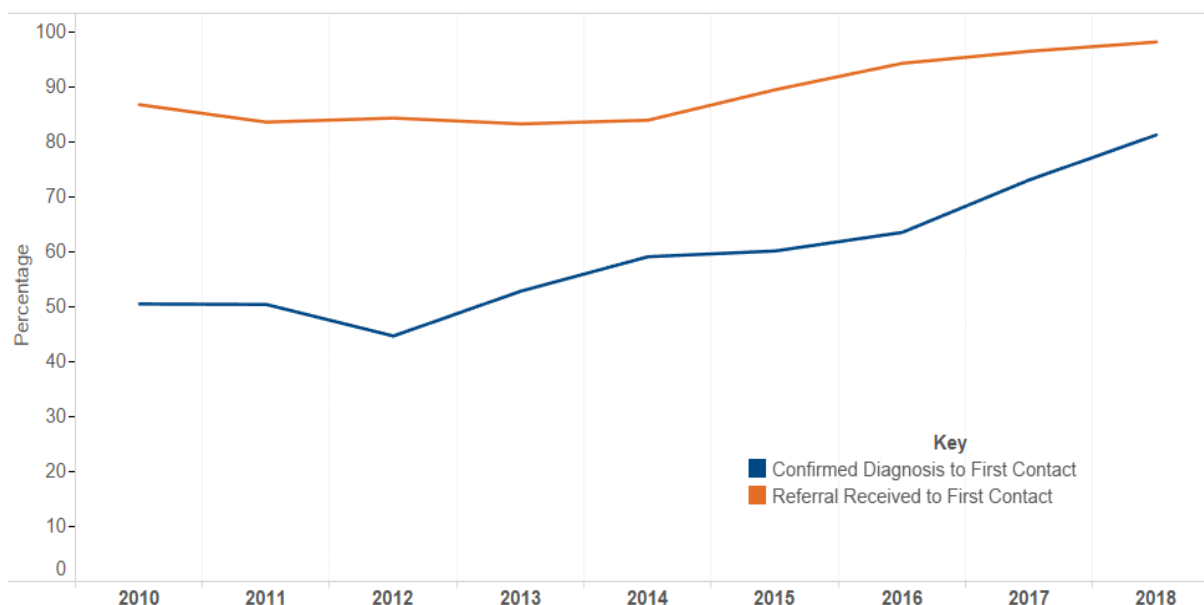
Main Points

- In 2018, 536 new patients with a confirmed diagnosis of MS were added to the MS Register. This brings the total number of patients newly diagnosed and reported over the nine-year period to 4,256.
- The annual incidence in 2018 shows that for every man there were over 2.7 women diagnosed with MS.
- In line with previous findings, the average annual incidence of MS in the six most northern NHS Boards was greater than the average for the eight southern NHS Boards.



- The proportion of newly diagnosed patients receiving contact with a MS specialist nurse within 10 working days of diagnosis, increased from 73.1% in 2017 to 81.2% in 2018.
- Once a referral was received by the MS specialist nurse, 98.1% of patients were contacted within 10 working days, an improvement from 96.4% last year.

Percentage of patients with a new diagnosis of MS contacted by a MS specialist nurse within 10 working days of confirmed diagnosis and percentage contacted within 10 working days from receipt of referral.



Background

The Scottish MS Register is a national register within the Scottish Healthcare Audits programme at ISD and is part of NHS National Services Scotland. The aim of the register is to improve healthcare for people living with MS in Scotland. Establishing the incidence and interpreting the implications of its demography allows us to facilitate service evaluation and drive health improvement. The data on which this report is produced are provided by neurologists and MS clinical teams via a standard electronic proforma which incorporates the patient journey from referral to diagnosis, including referral to a MS specialist nurse.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the full report on the [Registry website](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

The next update for this publication will be September 2020.

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. [Further information about our statistics.](#)