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## **Announcement of methodological change to Routine Quarterly Mental Health Minimum Dataset Reports**

The data source for this report is changing from the Mental Health Minimum Data Set (MHMDS) Version 3 to MHMDS Version 4, in line with the NHS Information Standards Board's ISN number ISN 87/2010 which can be found at:

<http://www.isb.nhs.uk/documents/isb-0011/amd-22-2011-version-4-0-uplift-to-specification/index.html>

Additional information can be found on the NHS Information Centre website at:

[www.ic.nhs.uk/services/mhmds/spec](http://www.ic.nhs.uk/services/mhmds/spec)

The Department of Health has revised the construction of some of the performance indicators meaning that they can not be directly compared to information from previous quarters. The new constructions can be found at:

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_126848](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_126848)

In addition it is possible that the change in methodology will affect counts used for various measures as the new data source is implemented between 2010/11 and 2011/12. Once assurance has taken place, further details will be provided in the Data Quality and Methodology document accompanying forthcoming publications.

The change in the manner in which the data is collected and processed will make it possible to develop additional data quality reports and other analyses. We will be looking into this as part of our consultation on these statistics.

Furthermore, some of the changes to the MHMDS have been designed to reduce the burden of data collection on the NHS by making it possible to use MHMDS as the data source for statistics currently produced from other data sources. To support this aim, the routine quarterly MHMDS reports will now include some statistics from other data sources with some parallel reporting from MHMDS due to be introduced during 2011/12.