
Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation

Chris Roebuck
Head of Profession for Statistics NHS Digital
(By email)

11 January 2018

Dear Chris

ASSESSMENT OF PATIENT REPORTED OUTCOMES MEASURES IN ENGLAND

Thank you for your letter of 10 January 2018 regarding your statistics on Patient Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs) which outlines the improvements made following our [assessment of these statistics](#). I am pleased that you have been able to report more fully on the quality of the statistics using the [Quality Assurance of Administrative Data toolkit](#) and worked with users to develop a more interactive way of presenting the statistics.

In your letter, you mentioned that significant changes are taking place to the scope of the PROMs data collection following a user consultation carried out by NHS England. You also mentioned that while PROMs data give helpful information about the outcomes from some surgical procedures at a given time, they have much less value as a long-standing time series.

Your letter also highlighted that NHS Digital is moving towards a smaller, more focused portfolio of National Statistics and that it will be a better use of your limited resources to improve other statistical series with key user value.

In the light of the changes to the PROMs, I consider that we should formally close down our follow up of this assessment without them attaining National Statistics status. I would welcome an update from you in due course about the developments to measures of patient outcomes in order for us to consider whether any further regulatory work would be appropriate. Please feel free to discuss any aspect of this with us at any time.

I am copying this letter to Mark Svenson, Head of Operational Information for Commissioning at NHS England.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation