

Indicator specification:

PLDR collection of population health indicators

Quality and Outcomes Framework Indicators: Rheumatoid arthritis prevalence (QOF_4_17)



Version: 1.00

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Authors: Eleojo Abubakar & Benjamin Barr

Overview

Indicator title

Quality and Outcomes Framework: Rheumatoid arthritis prevalence (QOF_4_17)

Indicator family name

Quality and Outcomes Framework

Summary

This indicator measures the percentage of registered patients recorded in QOF as having rheumatoid arthritis. Annual LSOA-level estimates are provided for 2013-2024 in England; earlier years were not available in the QOF achievement data used.

Technical description

QOF achievement records with `areaid_id` values RA001 were used to identify GP practice-year prevalence estimates for rheumatoid arthritis. Practice-year records with non-positive denominators or computed prevalences above 30% were excluded. GP practice prevalences were linked to annual patient counts by GP practice, LSOA and year, and weighted averages were calculated using the number of registered patients as weights. Relevant QOF achievement codes were not available before 2013.

Unique Identifier

QOF_4_17

Construction

Data sources

The QOF is a voluntary reward and incentive programme within the General Medical Services contract. Datasets by year and GP practice are available from www.gpcontract.co.uk. Annual GP practice patient registration data by LSOA were used to derive LSOA-level weighted averages.

Additional information about the QOF can be found at: www.gp-patient.co.uk and <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/quality-and-outcomes-framework-qof>

Construction of LSOA-level data

Condition-specific GP practice prevalence was calculated for each year where QOF data were available. These practice-level prevalences were joined to GP registration counts by practice, LSOA and year, then aggregated to LSOA level using patient-count weights to estimate annual prevalence of rheumatoid arthritis.

Denominator:

Total number of registered patients per LSOA and year, derived from annual GP patient registration data

Numerator:

Estimated number of patients recorded in QOF as having rheumatoid arthritis, by LSOA and year

Presentation

Breakdowns

Time period

Twelve years annual data: 2013-2024 (not available before 2013)

Geographic

Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) levels in England

Disclosure control

This indicator has been produced using only publicly available datasets.

Output: QOF_4_17_RA_LSOA.csv

Column name	Description
lsoa11	LSOA 2011 code
year	Year
num	Estimated number of patients with rheumatoid arthritis
den	Total number of registered patients
p_rate	Percentage

Revision history

Version	Date	Summary of changes
1.00	Apr 2026	First release.