



December 2023 edition

Welcome to NICOR's December newsletter.

As a busy 2023 draws to a close, we are very much looking forward to exciting times ahead next year. The National Cardiac Audit Programme has expanded to 11 clinical domains, which include four new technology registries to support the clinicians, patients, NHS commissioners and regulators.

We are undertaking new ways of working, which include a continuous validation process enabling real-time reporting using our online tools.



Our teams are working extremely hard on the delivery of the next round of reports which will be in the new online format, using NICOR's new online tools. This is a very exciting development, and we are looking forward to presenting the reports to you all and NHS England before the end of the financial year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support, the hard work and contribution to NICOR.

Wishing you the very best of the festive season.

John Deanfield CBE, NICOR Director

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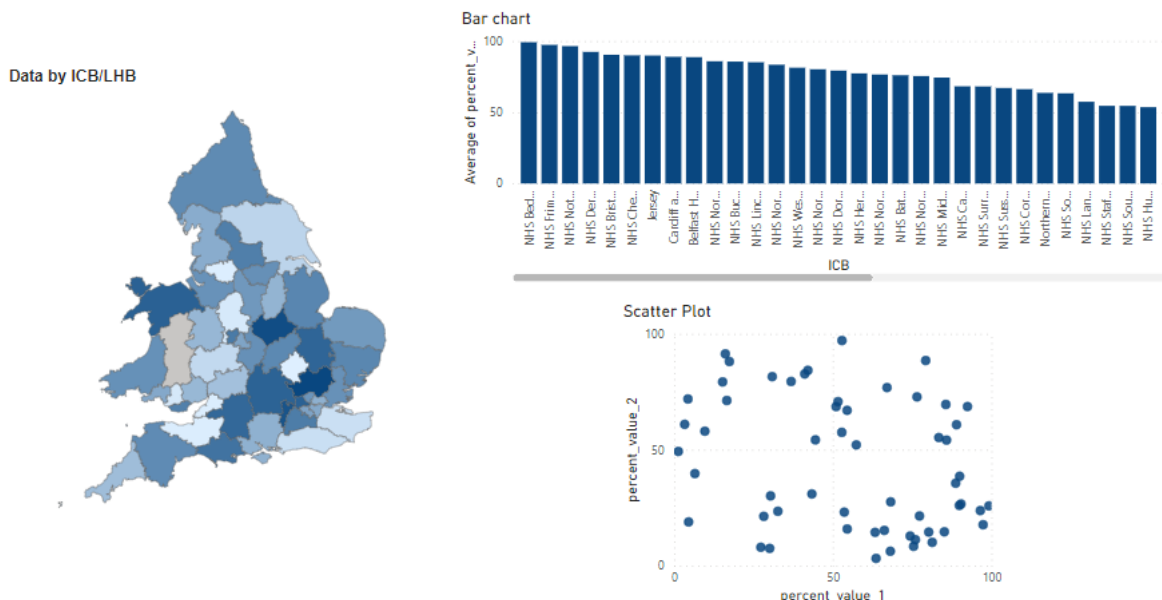
Publications

Real-time reporting: NCAP reports

As announced in our previous newsletter, NICOR continues to adopt the new ways of working to validate and report our data more contemporaneously. Hospitals are now required to undertake continuous data validation using the online data tools available within our web platform. These changes will mean validating the data on an ongoing basis, which will eliminate the demanding task of validating a full year's worth of data and will ensure that you have up to date and accurate data available throughout the year.

At NHSE's request we will be publishing these validated on-line data on an ongoing basis to produce quarterly NCAP domain reports. NICOR will continue to publish an annual NCAP aggregate report, which will highlight the most important points or themes from the domain reports, along with the Patient, Public and Carer report. The domain reports will use the Power BI format, available as interactive reports via the NICOR website. The next NCAP reports will be published on 14 March 2024.

Senior Project Manager, Anthony Bradley recently communicated via email about the changes and latest developments to the relevant teams and hospitals. Online guides and virtual webinars will be made available in due course, taking you through the online reports in detail with demonstrations. In the meantime, please contact [Anthony Bradley](#) if you have any feedback or questions. The following are some picture examples of Power BI reports.



Picture of an example Power BI report

Latest developments



New ways to log in to NCAP applications

We are working on a project to introduce a new, improved way to log in to the NCAP applications. This will mean the login via web.nicor.org.uk will no longer be available, and users will have the option of adopting multi-factor authentication (MFA) for a period until that becomes mandatory. MFA is an additional way of checking that it is really you when you log into your user account. It meets cyber security best practice in helping to protect patient and personal data. Communications will be circulated, and an update will be available on the NICOR news board nearer the time.

NICOR DropBox

With the changes to how we log in to NCAP applications, the current DropBox will be replaced with a modern application with an easy-to-use interface, collaborative features and enhanced security that will allow large files to be attached.

New NICOR registries

In addition to the TAVI and the TMTV registries another two new registries have been developed as part of the Structural Heart Intervention registries. These are the Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion (LAAO) and Percutaneous Patent Foramen Ovale Closure (PFOC) registries. User acceptance testing has been completed and both registries will be rolled out before the end of the financial year. More information about the registries is available on the [NICOR website](#).

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMS)

Work is taking place for a Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMS) dataset to be included in the National Audit of Cardiac Rhythm Management (NACRM) application as a pilot. This will allow PROM questionnaires (pre- and post-procedure) for patients who have had an ablation procedure for Atrial Fibrillation to be added to the application. The questionnaires to be used are the Atrial Fibrillation Effect on Quality-of-life (AFEQT) and the SF-12 health-related quality-of-life questionnaire. It is anticipated that in future NCAP domain reports will publish PROMS related data, which would have been submitted by hospitals to NICOR as part of the audit/registry dataset requirements.

If you have any queries regarding the latest developments, contact [Nadeem Fazal](#), Head of Systems Development, Data Services & Analysis.



Latest NICOR news

NICOR's Community Representative Group (formerly the Patient Representative Group)

Following feedback from our members to be inclusive of everyone, the NICOR Patient Representative Group has changed its name to NICOR's Community Representative Group. The name, chosen by members, is inclusive to anyone who would like to join the group, this includes, patients, carers and the public.

NICOR's Community Representative Group (NICOR CRG) and virtual CRG advises and supports NICOR in the development of its engagement strategy. This includes advising on the audit design and structure as well as outputs; design and content selection of NCAP reporting and ensures community views are considered in dataset planning so that NICOR reflects the issues and measures outcomes that are important to patients. NICOR's panel membership attend quarterly CRG meetings, via MS Teams. This work is supported by the virtual panel who operate and are kept informed via email. If you are interested in joining NICOR's CRG and would like further information, please contact [Sarah Colston](#), Senior Communications and Engagement Manager or visit the NICOR website.

Moving on

We would like to say a big thank you to Mark Dayer, Clinical Lead for the National Audit of Cardiac Rhythm Management (NACRM) who is moving on to a new role. Mark joined NICOR earlier this year and has been instrumental in his clinical leadership for the CRM clinical registry and the 2023 summary report. Congratulations Mark on your promotion, from everyone at NICOR, we wish you the best for the future.

The NACRM Clinical Lead post is currently being advertised and we hope to announce the appointment in the new year.



On a final note

Looking ahead for 2024

2024 will be an exciting year for NICOR. NICOR teams are working hard on the delivery of the next round of reports and implementation to the changes to the new validation and digital tools. NHS England has commissioned NICOR to publish the NCAP domain level data quarterly and for us to be able to deliver the reports on time, we need the support of the hospital teams. We require validated data to be submitted on a regular and frequent basis to ensure we meet the timelines set by NHS England. It is the responsibility of the hospitals to submit their data to NICOR regularly, via our online reporting tools to ensure the continuous validation process. Please do get in touch with your Project Manager, or Senior Project Manager

[Anthony Bradley](#) if we can help support you with this process or if you have any questions.

NICOR is investing in a new website with a new design, improved navigation and will utilise the latest creative and intelligence tools. The website will bring NICOR data to life with enhanced functionality with real-time reporting to support clinicians and hospitals with all the latest reporting tools and datasets. The website will also be an information and support tool for patients, carers and public who want to understand what happens with their data and why.

The vision is for the website to be simple, modern and accessible. Initial scoping has started and will evolve early in 2024 with the plan to launch the new website before April 2024. We will invite stakeholders to feedback on the new concept, site navigation and content. Keep an eye out for further details on developments and how you can feedback and help shape the new website.

NICOR is always looking to evolve and make improvements to its services and communications on how we keep our stakeholders updated. If you have any suggestions or feedback, please do let us know, please contact [Sarah Colston](#), via email. Your opinion and feedback are valuable on how we can continue to shape and make improvements at NICOR.

Thank you for your support and contribution to NICOR. We could not do our job without your support. We would like to wish everyone a festive and healthy Christmas and New Year.



NICOR Senior Management Team

James Chal, Nadeem Fazal, Laura Hughes, Anthony Bradley and Mark de Belder