

LOC Support Unit

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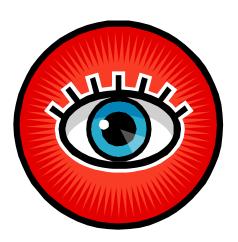
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Advice note

Using the epidemiological tool



LOC SUPPORT UNIT
ADVICE NOTE #7
Available on line at www.locsu.co.uk
Or call 020 7207 8156

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National Eye Health Epidemiological Model (NEHEM)

Introduction

The NEHEM is an exciting new tool that, for the first time, provides reliable prevalence estimates for common eye conditions in an easy to access format on the internet. The model provides data for the following conditions:

AMD Cataract Glaucoma Low Vision

The model is very flexible and can be interrogated for a number of different administrative areas in the UK: Nation, Local Authority, Primary Care organisation, including both new and old English PCT areas, and Strategic Health Areas (England only). The model will be particularly useful in the development of local Enhanced Services where current service provision, particularly in secondary care, tends to be demand led.

The model contains prevalence information, based on the best research evidence currently available and current Office of National Statistics population data giving the (estimated) total

number of people expected to have a condition in the chosen region, both as a total number and as a percentage of the population. It will show total healthcare need, both those diagnosed and known about and the 'unknowns'. Depending on the module interrogated the database will also break down information into risk groups, condition sub-types and age profiles.

How to use the NEHEM

The figures are prevalence figures, that is the estimated total number of people in the chosen area with the condition, i.e. the total need. The model does not currently include incidence estimates, ie the number of new cases arising in a specific time period such as one year.

Interrogation of the model is simple:

- Using your Web Browser go to the NEHEM website www.eyehealthmodel.org.uk
- Select the eye condition of interest, e.g. glaucoma
- Select the type of region e.g.
 Primary Care Organisation

- · Select the locality, e.g. Southwark
- Click the button "Get Data"



A table will then appear below your selection with the selected data.

Glaucoma Data

1.47% 2.07% 0.92% 5.00% 7.00% 5.67% 3.20% Population	AreaCode	Area Name	Mean Estimated Glaucoma Cases	Low Estimated Glaucoma Cases	Suspects Under 60	Suspects 60+	TotalSuspects	Ocular Hypertension		
Figures		England							Detailed	Delete

The presented data, if applicable, may be broken down further, for instance by age group or ethnic origin, using links on the right hand end of the table. If preferred the data can be downloaded to an Excel spreadsheet by clicking on the appropriate button (pop-up blockers must be disabled for this function to operate).

Use of the data

The outputs from the model will give you the estimated number of people in your chosen area with the selected condition. This data can then be used to review existing services and plan new services. For

example un-met need in the locality might be of interest and could be estimated, perhaps by combining the number of known secondary care patients in your area with the prevalence data.

The model will also allow for the input of local demographic data such as locally held population profiles, local ethnicity information and local prevalence rates.

