

# Newsletter

## Demand Optimisation



**Welcome** to the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the National Demand Optimisation newsletter. The National Demand Optimisation Group is now well into Phase II with good representation from staff from the various laboratory disciplines who are carrying out great demand optimisation work in their field.

### Strategy Development Day

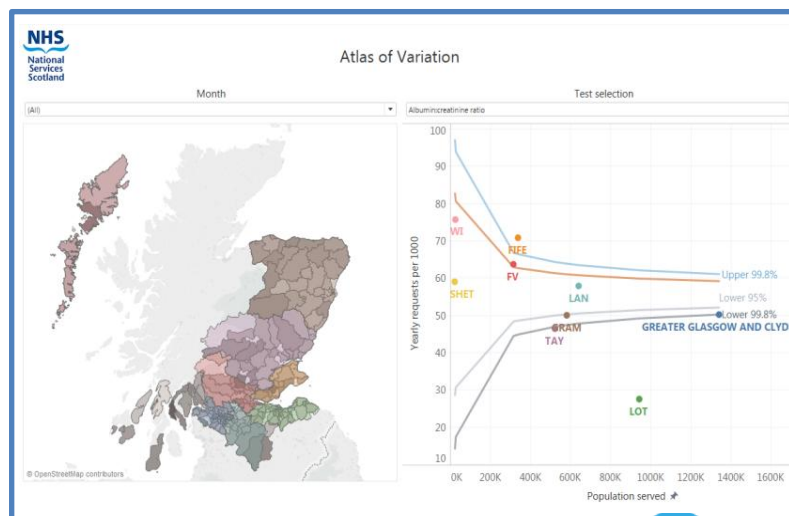
The third NDOG session was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018. The meeting highlighted the current work by each discipline and discussed the strategic direction. The Group was shown the latest Atlas of Variation prototype and representatives from each discipline summarised the excellent work they are carrying out. The day also highlighted the next steps/work plan and potential Phase III funding and suggestions. See below for recent highlights.

The next Strategy Development Meeting is planned for 19 February 2019.

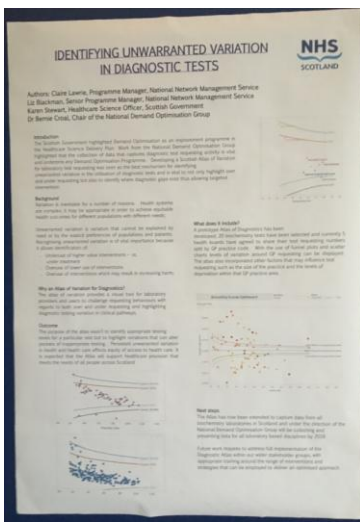
### Atlas of Variation

The second prototype of the Atlas of Variation is now in development, taking into account valuable suggestions from GP's and the Steering Group. The new layout of dashboards provides greater options for data interrogation at both practice and cluster level, in addition to regional and Scotland wide.

Data collections of identified tests from almost all disciplines are now in progress and it is anticipated that the majority of data will be returned in the New Year.



**Your Board not included?**  
**Please return your data at your earliest convenience so we can see all of NHS Scotland.**



## Atlas Poster

The Atlas of Variation work was also presented as a poster at the inaugural Realistic Medicine Conference held on the 9<sup>th</sup> October. The poster highlighted the progress of the Demand Optimisation Group in developing a way to identify unwarranted variation in test requesting and showed examples of the dashboards with the pilot set of Biochemistry data.

## Quality Improvement

**Pathology:** Pathology have received their yearly annual report and have identified Appendix practices, placenta and endoscopies as specific areas that will benefit from reviewing current procedures. These will take place in NHS Lanarkshire, NHS Grampian and NHS Lothian respectively.

**Biochemistry:** SCBMDN Innovation/Demand Optimisation group have developed guidelines for three key areas of test requesting. These include: FSH/menopause, 25-OH Vitamin D and U/E profile in primary care. These have been approved and published on the network's website: <http://www.mcns.scot.nhs.uk/scbmdn/resources/documents>

**Haematology:** A list of tests for inclusion in the Atlas of Variation have been agreed. The short life working group will discuss and agree on definitions and how to standardise tests where there may be differences in names e.g. Coagulation screens.

**Microbiology and Virology:** Quality improvement projects will take place in NHS Lothian (leg ulcers), NHS Fife (Urine cultures), NHS D&G and NHS A&A (HVS) using current available guidelines as the basis for optimising practice.

**Immunology:** Have a number of current projects in progress that are focussed in optimising test requesting. These will continue to develop alongside and with support from the DOG.

## Website

The website is currently under-going a recent refresh. Please bear with us as we continue to update. If there is anything you feel the website would benefit from, please get in contact with us. In the meantime please have a look at the website for useful information on membership, meetings, events and latest news: <https://www.mcns.scot.nhs.uk/dog/>

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