

Dear colleagues

Welcome to the first Right Decision Service newsletter, for 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024. We will aim to send out updates on an approximately monthly basis going forward.

In the first instance, we have circulated this update to all contacts for Right Decision Service toolkits. If you would prefer NOT to receive future updates, please email [olivia.graham@nhs.scot](mailto:olivia.graham@nhs.scot) to opt out. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to others who may be interested. They can contact Olivia to be added to the circulation list.

### Media stories

News coverage of the transition of the Right Decision Service to Healthcare Improvement Scotland and launch of the Once for Scotland RDS platform:

- [Digital Health](#)
- [Health Management](#)
- [Powerhealthx](#)

### Redesign of RDS

Redesign of the Right Decision Service homepage, browse and search capabilities is now underway. This builds on stakeholder feedback and the consultation workshops held in December 2023. The intention is to go live with these improvements in April 2024.

### Migration of apps

The last three apps are now in the process of migration to the new Right Decision Service platform, due for completion by end of March 2024 –

- NHS GGC paediatric guidelines
- Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow resources for parent and families
- Antimicrobial companion

All other apps have now been successfully migrated.

### New toolkits

A few examples of toolkits published to live in the last two months include:

- [NHS Tayside paediatrics pathways](#)
- [NMC Future Nursing Standards – ways to evidence learning](#) (NHS Tayside)
- [Child protection guidance](#) (South Lanarkshire HSCP)
- [Type 2 diabetes prescribing](#) (national guidance)
- [Being a partner in my care: Realistic Medicine together](#)

### Toolkits in development

Some of the toolkits the RDS team are currently working on:

- [SIGN diabetes type 1 guideline](#)
- [SIGN dementia guideline](#)
- [Scottish Ambulance Service \(SAS\): Paediatric sepsis](#)
- [NHS Grampian critical care](#)
- [NHS Lothian neonatal guidelines](#)
- NHS Borders patient information (currently unpublished)

The toolkits which are published to the RDS are currently password-protected while they undergo testing. Please contact [his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot](mailto:his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot) if you would like to learn more about a toolkit. The RDS team will put you in touch with the relevant toolkit lead.

### Learning opportunities

We have recently created a [learning and support toolkit](#) on the RDS website. This toolkit provides guidance, videoclips and links to tools and resources to support:

- End-users of the Right Decision Service to download and navigate RDS resources.
- Providers of Right Decision Service tools to plan, build and maintain guidelines, pathways and other Right Decision Service tools.

The RDS Learning Group is now working on a train the trainer package to support further development of RDS editor skills.

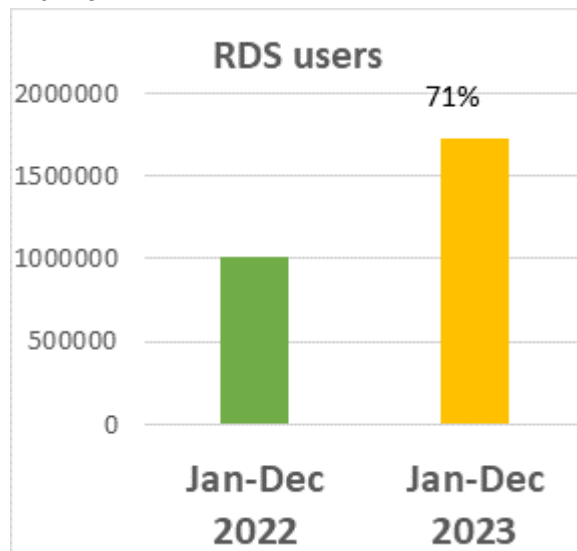
### Quality audit

In late November 2023, the RDS team issued a questionnaire based on the quality criteria outlined in the RDS [standard operating procedures](#) . Thank you to all of you who responded to the questionnaire. We will be following up with each of you to discuss next steps and will be contacting non-respondents.

### Evaluation

Usage statistics to the end of December 2023 have now been produced for all RDS toolkits and apps. Please contact [his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot](mailto:his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot) if you would like to access the usage stats for your toolkit.

As illustrated below, there has been a 71% increase in usage of all RDS resources in 2023 compared with 2022.



The RDS team is also working with the Digital Health and Care Innovation Centre on a series of stakeholder interviews and case studies to understand the impact of RDS on knowledge, behaviours and practice.

### Decision support embedded in electronic health record systems

NHS National Services Scotland has fully tested and approved the most recent update of the high risk prescribing decision support system based on the national polypharmacy guidance. Roll-out of this system across NHS Tayside and NHS Lothian is planned to start from April, with research evaluation

by University of Dundee. Initial pilots are also in early stages in NHS Dumfries and Galloway and NHS GGC, and are planned for NHS Forth Valley and NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

### National calculators

The Right Decision Service team is working with partners in NHS Boards and Scottish Government to develop three national calculators:

- UK CA marked version 2 of ASSIGN – cardiovascular risk assessment scoring tool (with Scottish Government Clinical Priorities Team)
- Upgraded and UK CA marked versions of gentamicin and vancomycin calculators (with Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group Programme Lead)
- UK CA marked IV fluids calculators (with the Modernising Patient Pathways Programme, National Waiting Times Board)
- Benzodiazepine tapering tool (with Scottish Government Effective Prescribing and Therapeutics Division)

### Implementation projects

The RDS team has support from an improvement expert for a few months to help to develop implementation models for our citizen-facing and shared decision-making decision support tools - including the Manage Medicines toolkit for patients and carers and Being a partner in my care. The implementation models will be based on implementation science methods and tests of change in a number of pilot sites. The approach includes outreach to public libraries to develop their role in signposting and support for use of these toolkits in the community.

If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, please contact us on [his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot](mailto:his.decisionsupport@nhs.scot)

With kind regards

Right Decision Service team  
Healthcare Improvement Scotland