



000438

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

NHS  
MEL(1993)93

National Health Service in Scotland  
Management Executive

St. Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

**CLINICAL OUTCOME MEASURES**

**Summary**

1. MEL(1992)87 enclosed a copy of the interim report from the Clinical Outcomes Working Group. The interim report indicated that further reports containing baseline information by Health Board of treatment would be issued periodically and the first of these is attached.

**Action**

2. The report is being issued in order to stimulate wide ranging discussion about the use of outcome measures in general and, in particular, to begin to try to explain variations between different Health Boards and providers.

3. This debate should not be restricted to the specialties involved in the first measures to be identified. Before long, outcome measures will involve all health care professionals and managers.

4. The work being done by the Clinical Outcomes Working Group in collaboration with the Information Services Directorate to refine and develop the approach is described in the report, and I hope that similar action will be taken at local level to examine the issues and develop better measures for future use. The Working Group plans to issue further reports and discussion papers through which future developments will be reported. Boards will wish to be prepared to meet some public and press interest in this report.

5. Boards will wish to take account of the Working Group's findings when negotiating health care contracts with providers.

6. Copies of the report have been sent under cover of this letter to Unit General Managers and Trust Chief Executives. The Chief Medical Officer is sending it at the same time to a wide range of clinical staff and professional bodies, including Chief Professional Officers, Unit General Managers and Trust Chief Executives as indicated in his letter of 18 June.

Yours sincerely  
I. G. Rae

p.p. WILLIAM MOYES

B1301619.063

7 July 1993

**Addressees**

For action:

General Managers,  
Health Boards

General Manager,  
State Hospital

General Manager,  
Common Services Agency

General Manager,  
Health Education Board  
for Scotland

Chief Executives and  
Chief Executive  
Designate, NHS Trusts

**Enquiries to:**

Miss E A Dobbie  
Clinical Resource and  
Audit Group  
Room 213  
St Andrew's House  
EDINBURGH EH1 3DE  
Tel: 031-244 2319

<b>COMMON SERVICES AGENCY</b>	
<b>RECEIVED:</b>	
13 JUL 1993	
FILE No.	
REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN

