

Model for estimating the prevalence of Epilepsy

The Public Health Intelligence Unit developed the epilepsy prevalence model to support Doncaster's PCTs development of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF). The model estimates the prevalence of people aged 18 or over who are receiving drug treatment for Epilepsy within practice populations.

The model is based on the work of Purcell et al¹. The authors use the General Practice Research Database (GPRD) to derive estimated prevalence by age/sex group. The paper suggests deprivation can predict increases in the prevalence of epilepsy but the effect appears to be small. The model is based on the prevalence figures produced by Purcell et al.

Prevalence per 1,000 by age and sex

	0-4	5-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
Men	1.9	4.4	6.6	7.9	8.0	8.4	9.5	10.9	13.9	15.1
Women	1.8	4.1	6.9	7.9	7.8	8.7	9.0	10.2	9.9	11.0

No further adjustments were made for deprivation or other factors.

¹ Purcell B, Gaitatzis A, Sanders JW, Majeed A, 2002, Epilepsy prevalence and prescribing patterns in England and Wales, **Health Statistics Quarterly**, 23-30, 15, Office of National Statistics.