

Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2002

PSSRU

The tenth annual Unit Costs report is the largest (at 201 pages) and, we believe, the most accurate yet.

The aim of the series is to improve unit cost estimates over time, drawing on material as it becomes available, including ongoing and specially commissioned research. It brings together information from a variety of sources to estimate national unit costs for a wide range of health and social care services.

The costs reported always reflect, to a greater or lesser degree, work in progress, as the intention is to refine and improve estimates wherever possible, drawing on a wide variety of sources. The report consists of sets of 'schemata' or tables, which as well as providing the most detailed and comprehensive information possible, also quote sources and assumptions so users can adapt the information for their own purposes. Also included are: an editorial discussing current and new developments; brief articles providing background to user services, descriptions of cost methodology or use of cost estimates; price indices; a reference list of key studies; a glossary; and indexes.

Online

The 2002 edition is also available in full at the PSSRU website — www.ukc.ac.uk/pssru/ — as an Acrobat file.

New in this edition

In this volume a new section on services for disabled people includes rehabilitation and independent living services as well as high dependency residential services. A new schema is included for nurse-led rehabilitation wards. Other new costs information covers the patient costs of visiting GPs, and social services child care drawing on the Children in Need data collection.

There are five brief articles: a description of a study which is examining the cost implications of a nurse practitioner service for care home residents; details of service levels and costs of inpatient care as a source of support for young people with psychiatric disorders and their families; information about a new annual return on personal social services expenditure and unit costs; information about a new source of data on mental health services in England; and an article on the development of Health Accounts, a way of organising health information to permit improved analyses of the efficiency and effectiveness of health services, and enable international comparisons.

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Unit Costs volumes for previous years to 1995 (with articles on different aspects of costing research and methodology) are still available, and are priced at £12 for the 2001 volume and £1 each for previous years (if ordered with the 2002 volume). All prices include post and packing.

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Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2002	£21.00		
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The **PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES RESEARCH UNIT** undertakes social and health care research, supported mainly by the Department of Health, and focusing particularly on policy research and analysis of equity and efficiency in community care, long-term care and related areas — including services for elderly people, people with mental health problems and children in care. The PSSRU was established at the University of Kent at Canterbury in 1974, and from 1996 it has operated from three sites:

University of Kent at Canterbury, Cornwallis Building, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NF

London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE

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