# Summary Methodology for National Psychiatric In-Patient Reporting System (NPIRS)

## General Information

The National Psychiatric In-Patient Reporting System (NPIRS) records detailed information on all admissions to, discharges from and deaths in Irish psychiatric units and hospitals on the register of approved centres under the Mental Health Act 2001. The annual reports, especially the annual Activities report, produced from NPIRS play a key role in the planning of service delivery. National and regional bulletins capturing data for the HSE areas, along with an in-patient census carried out every three years, are also produced from the database. The database also provides much of the data on Performance Indicators (PIs) for the mental health services which are used to monitor targets in certain keys areas of the services.
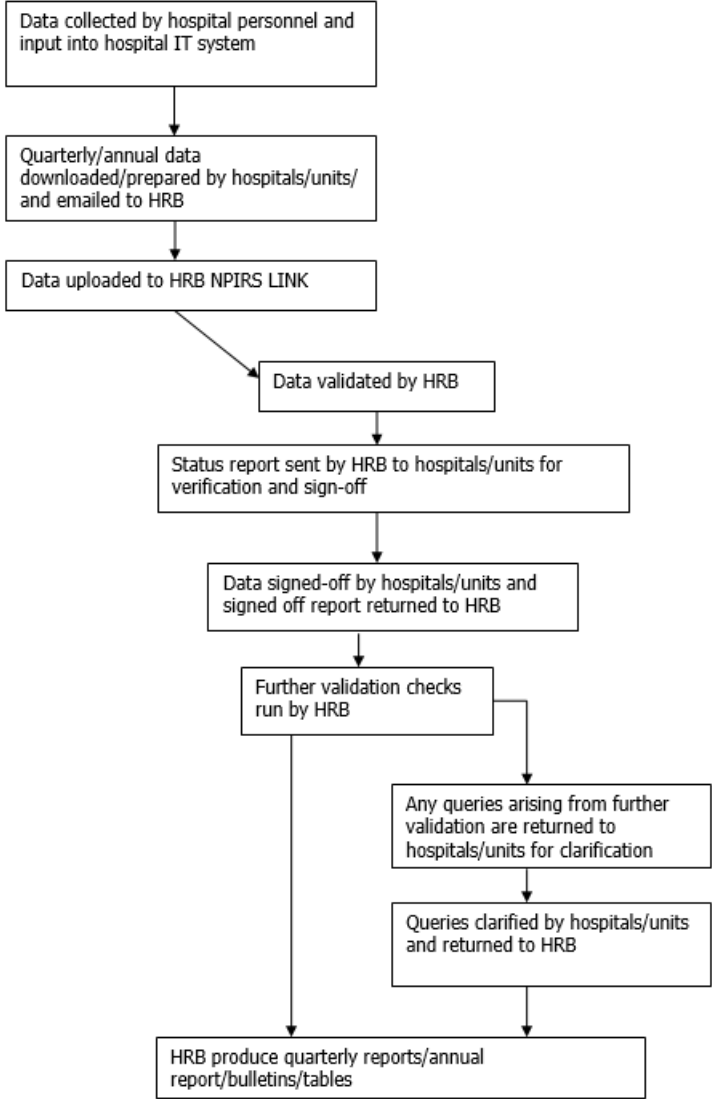
## Processing and Analysis

Data are collected by each hospital/approved centre upon admission/discharge of a patient and returned to the NPIRS team in the National Health Information Systems of the HRB. Data are returned electronically on a quarterly basis by all acute psychiatric units/hospitals, non-acute units/hospitals, independent/private and private charitable centres and child and adolescent units.

Statistical classifications and definitions are specified according to policy and practice within the mental health in-patient sector. Separate analysis and reporting is undertaken for adult and children's data.

# Information data flow chart

The following map outlines the flow of data from the point of data collection in the units and hospitals to the outputs such as the annual report and bulletins.

## Dissemination

Data are published annually on the HRB website. Reports are in the form of PDF files, and supporting data is provided in both Excel and CSV format. In line with Government policy the NPIRS is committed to publishing open data so that its outputs are accessible to and reusable by the widest possible audience. For researchers, and all others requiring data please our interactive tables are available on the Central Statistics Office (CSO) website. If the data required is not available through these tables, data can be requested by completing the National Health Information Systems (NHIS) data request form and accept the terms and conditions for use of NPIRS data. The form is in editable PDF format and can be returned to:  npirs@hrb.ie

Analysis of NPIRS data collected is provided, on request, to units and hospitals that participate in the NPIRS by contacting npirs@hrb.ie