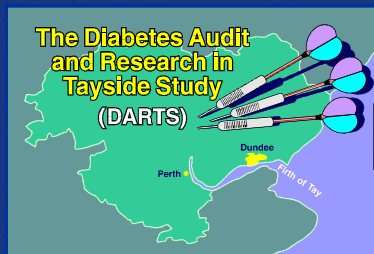
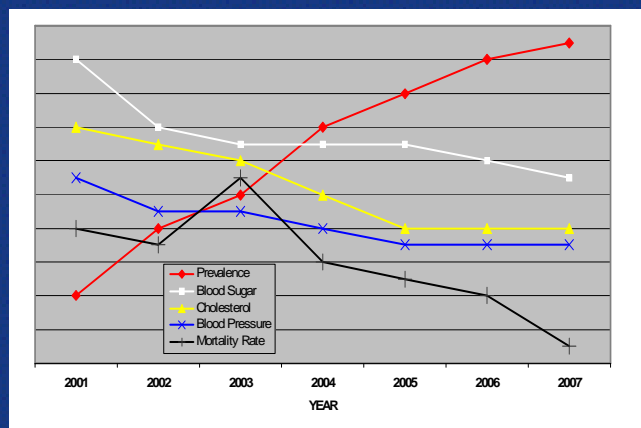
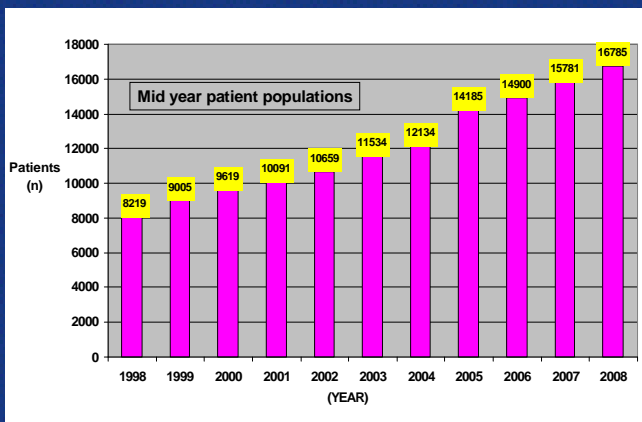


Background: Tayside is located on the East coast of Scotland was where the Diabetes Audit and Research in Tayside Study (DARTS) was conducted. When this began in 1996 data was gathered and validated manually but clinical information has been ascertained electronically via the DARTS Web System since 1999.

Over the past decade, prevalence of Diabetes in Tayside has doubled, while, since the introduction of published Annual Reports in 2001, control measures (Cholesterol, Glycated Haemoglobin and Blood Pressure) have shown sustained improvements and mortality has steadily fallen.

Integration of clinical IT systems has been extremely effective in increasing data capture. The appropriate use of these data by clinical staff has proven a vital factor in improving the clinical outcomes for patients with diabetes.



Tayside's DARTS IT Programme has evolved into a clinical tool serving as a comprehensive shared register, database and communication system for diabetes care across Scotland.



Specialised web-pages to assist clinical care

Conclusion: A shared diabetes record has been created and is being used securely throughout each health board area in Scotland. SCI-DC now provides a means of monitoring the increasing prevalence of diabetes across the country and can allow the requirements and resources of future services in diabetes management to be accurately predicted. The system is actively contributing to the electronic health record in Scotland.

Future developments will see patients being given electronic access to their SCI-DC record via the 'My Diabetes My Way' website (www.mydiabetesmyway.scot.nhs.uk) using internet banking security and authentication methods.