

GREENER PRACTICE GLOUCESTERSHIRE

SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE & PRESCRIBING



Gloucestershire leads country on key sustainability indicator

Hello and welcome to the spring edition of our bulletin.

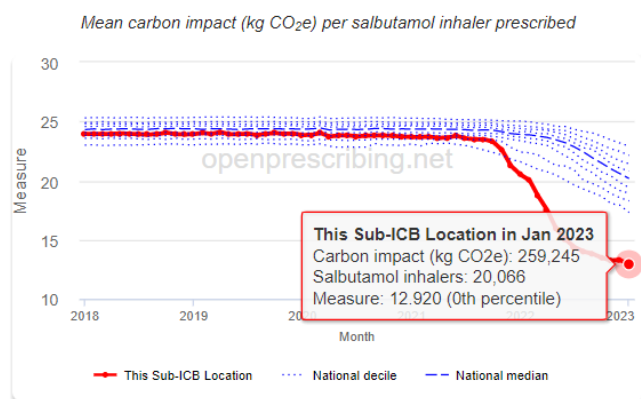


Gloucestershire **still** has the lowest average carbon footprint per SABA inhaler of any ICB in the country. Many thanks for the hard work of pharmacy teams, practice nurses and GPs.

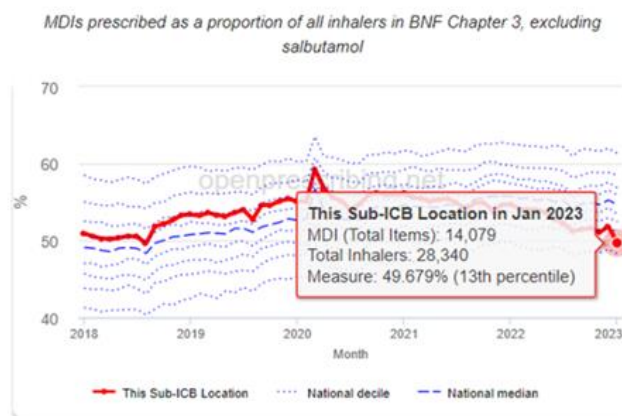
Gloucestershire is also showing substantial progress in changing ICS and ICS+ LABA to low carbon dry powder inhalers. Our MDI prescriptions counted for less than 50% of inhaler prescriptions dispensed for the first time in January 2023.

Fantastic news and please keep up this amazing work.

Environmental impact of inhalers - average carbon footprint per salbutamol inhaler



Environmental impact of inhalers - prescribing of non-salbutamol Metered Dose Inhalers



Unexpectedly the IIF respiratory indicators are not continuing into 2023/24. **However** open prescribing will continue to report on the inhaler [Greener Measures](#) categories. In addition the newly launched NHSBSA [Respiratory – carbon impact dashboard](#) aims to provide a way to monitor and promote better respiratory care and lower carbon prescribing practice.

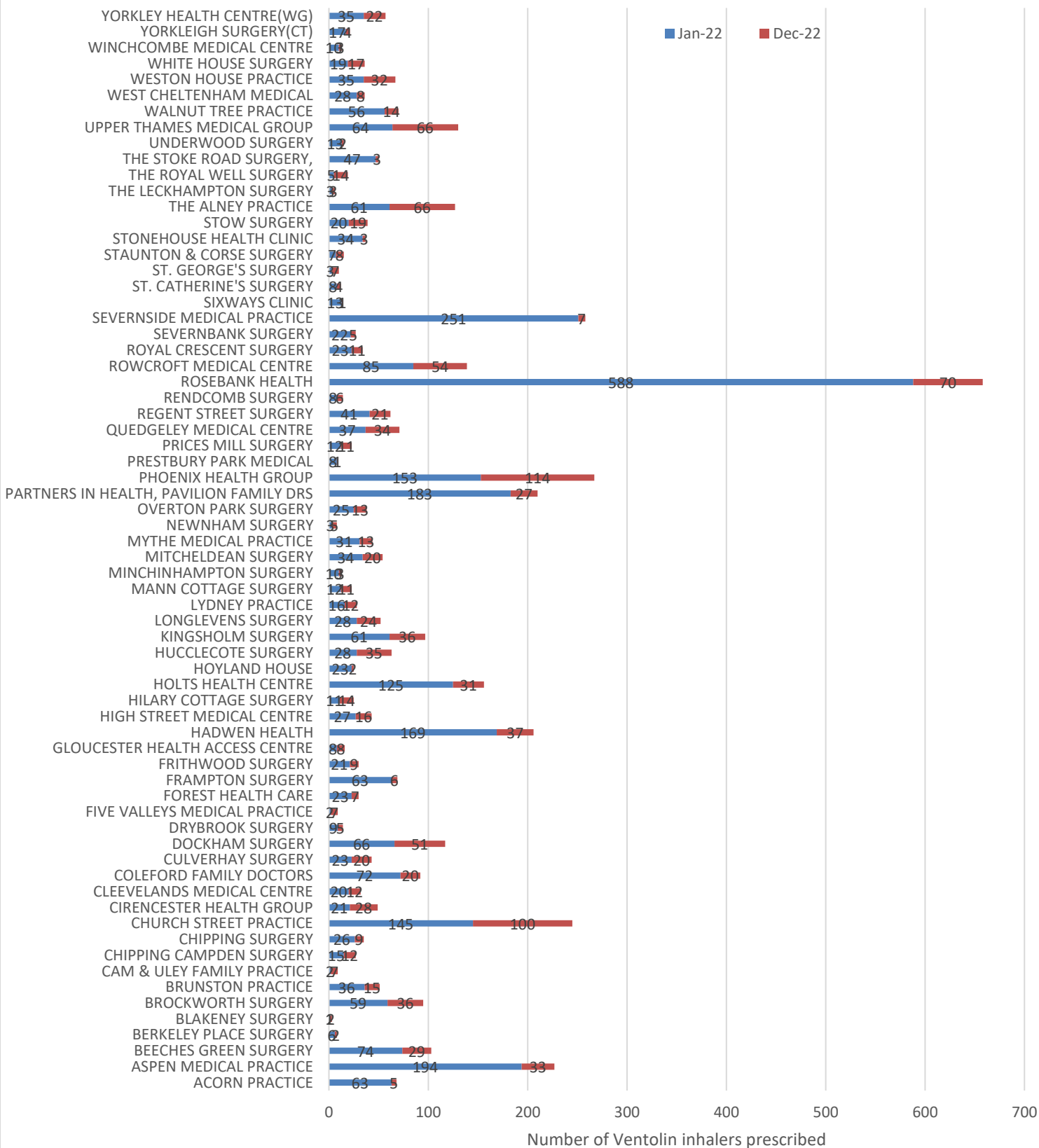
So, there is still a strong strategic focus to increase both the sustainability and quality of respiratory care. See [the Greener Practice asthma toolkit](#) for a wealth of resources for professionals and patients.

A SPECIAL NOTE ON VENTOLIN METERED DOSE INHALERS

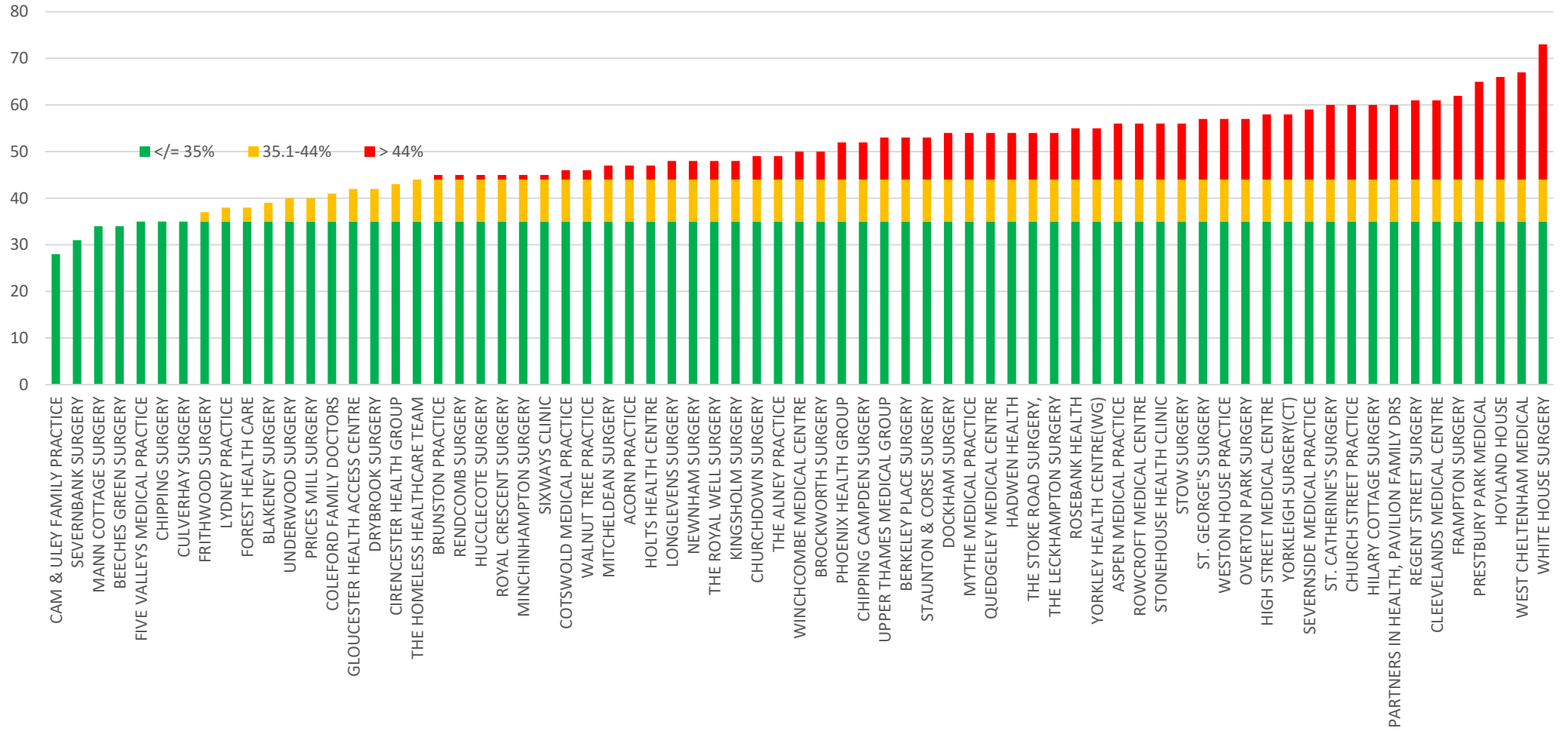
Every Ventolin inhaler has a **massive 28kg CO₂e** of propellant gases, hence the huge focus on changing these to lower carbon alternatives eg Salamol (11kg CO₂e) or even better a dry powder inhaler eg Easyhaler (0.5kg CO₂e). See graph below to see how your practice has progressed. Top marks go to **Rosebank** for making a huge reduction in their high number of Ventolin prescriptions.

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Change in Ventolin Inhaler prescriptions January 2022 & December 2022



ES01 MDI as a % of total inhalers (excluding salbutamol) prescribed to 1st January 2023



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Sustainability Quality Improvement Initiative for 2023-2024.

Even more good news is that Gloucestershire ICB is unique in continuing its incentivisation of primary care sustainability with a creative **Sustainability Quality Improvement Initiative for 2023-2024.**

Practices can choose from a menu of CO2 saving initiatives for which they will receive payments from the ICB.

These initiatives will not only reduce your emissions, they will save you money, save you appointments, save you time, save your patients from unnecessary trips to the GP and save the NHS money.

Your PCNs will receive funding to hold facilitated workshops for practices to brainstorm and share ideas on how to design and implement quality improvement programmes to suit their needs.

Your practice managers have been emailed for expressions of interest and the forms need to be returned to glicb.primarycare@nhs.net

THE GREEN IMPACT FOR HEALTH TOOLKIT – have you signed up yet?

A fantastic 60% of Gloucestershire ICB practices have signed up to the toolkit. Sign up is easy at [Green Impact for Health Toolkit](#) & is a great way to chart your sustainability and decarbonisation journey.

Congratulations to the 43 practices who have signed onto the award scheme. 17 practices have awards:-

Gold award	Church Street Medical Practice, Cam & Uley Family Practice, Chipping Surgery, Prestbury Park & Prices Mill
Silver award	Berkeley Place, Churchdown, Leckhampton, Rosebank, Royal Crescent
Bronze award	Acorn Practice, Aspen, Cirencester, Frithwood, Gloucester Health Access Centre, Stoke Road, Walnut Tree,

VOLATILE ANAESTHETIC GAS DESFLURANE – HIGHLY POTENT GHG – USE STOPPED

Desflurane is **2540 times more potent** as a greenhouse gas than an equivalent mass of Carbon Dioxide. A word of congratulations to our secondary care colleagues at GHFT who have made a huge impact on reducing the more than 1 kilotonne per annum to zero. See [The Desflurane Reduction Project | Centre for Sustainable Healthcare](#)

GREENER PRACTICE GLOUCESTERSHIRE SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE & PRESCRIBING

A great poster for your waiting rooms....see this and many more at Rumina's website:
<https://www.thegreeningoflife.com/posters>

UNWANTED OR EXPIRED MEDICINES?



RETURN THEM to your local PHARMACY



for correct disposal

PLEASE DON'T FLUSH, POUR, OR THROW THEM AWAY



REMEMBER, THE SEA STARTS HERE

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Planetary Health Hub Programme at The Big One

The Planetary Health Hub is part of a wider coalition which includes many nature, conservation and climate groups, including <https://www.greenerpractice.co.uk/>, <https://www.pharmacydeclares.co.uk/>, all of whom will be around parliament from Friday April 21st to Monday April 24th. See <https://planetaryhealthhub.co.uk/> for the programme of events at what promises to be an epic gathering.



Have you seen the latest [South West Greener NHS Bulletin - April 2023 \(office.com\)](#) with information on greener practice events and how to obtain free trees for NHS sites from [NHS Forest](#)

The Big Green Money Show – listen to this episode all about **Medicines and Health care**
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001kw3c>

**** This and previous bulletins can be found on <https://www.greenerpractice.co.uk/join-our-network/local-groups/gloUCEstershire/> ****

Please send any items for inclusion in the next quarterly newsletter and consider joining the Greener Practice group; we have WhatsApp groups and bimonthly evening meetings & welcomes new members. Next general meeting TBC Contact greenerpracticeglos@gmail.com