GP Practice Maps

Introduction
GP practice boundaries define the legal extents of the service they are contracted to provide. It is subsequently vital that NHS England Area Teams, CCGs, GPs and practice managers understand the distribution of their patients in relation to practice boundaries.

Solution
Our GP practice maps show practice boundaries, practice location and practice population spread against Ordnance Survey background mapping. Maps are supplied as hardcopy paper, electronic PDF/JPEGs, or via our online HealthGIS Maps portal. We also use Google Maps to create practice boundary and location maps for public facing GP websites. Other information, such as hospitals can be included in the maps on request.

Benefits
Our GP practice maps help NHS staff understand the geography of their patients, which aids their service delivery. The maps act as a definitive source of practice boundary and patient spread information which supports primary care contract monitoring, service development and patient registration. The delivery of maps via our online portal means the maps are available to customers on demand. Our public facing practice boundary maps increase public access to health care information.

Return on investment
The maps support the challenge of improving health services whilst making efficiency savings, by providing an evidence base for GP practice based analysis. The time spent responding to contractual GP boundary issues and queries from the public, is reduced by referring to the map which acts as a single shared point of reference. Further time savings can be achieved by accessing the maps via our HealthGIS online portal.

About SCWCS
South, Central and West Commissioning Support Informatics offer a comprehensive range of information management and technology (IM&T) solutions for organisations across England and Wales.

The NHS is increasingly reliant on the development and implementation of good IM&T systems. SCWCS is an experienced and knowledgeable partner, providing services to NHS commissioners, community providers and others to:

• support clinicians in delivering patient care through improved access to information services
• improve inter-organisational working
• make the best use of time and resources.