

Patient Safety
Commissioner

Listening to Patients



Dr Henrietta Hughes Patient Safety Commissioner

Safe use of valproate webinar

28th February 2024



My role

To seek improvements to patient safety around the use of medicines and medical devices

To amplify patients' voice and champion the value of listening to patients

Appointed by the Secretary of State for Health and accountable to Parliament

Listening to patients

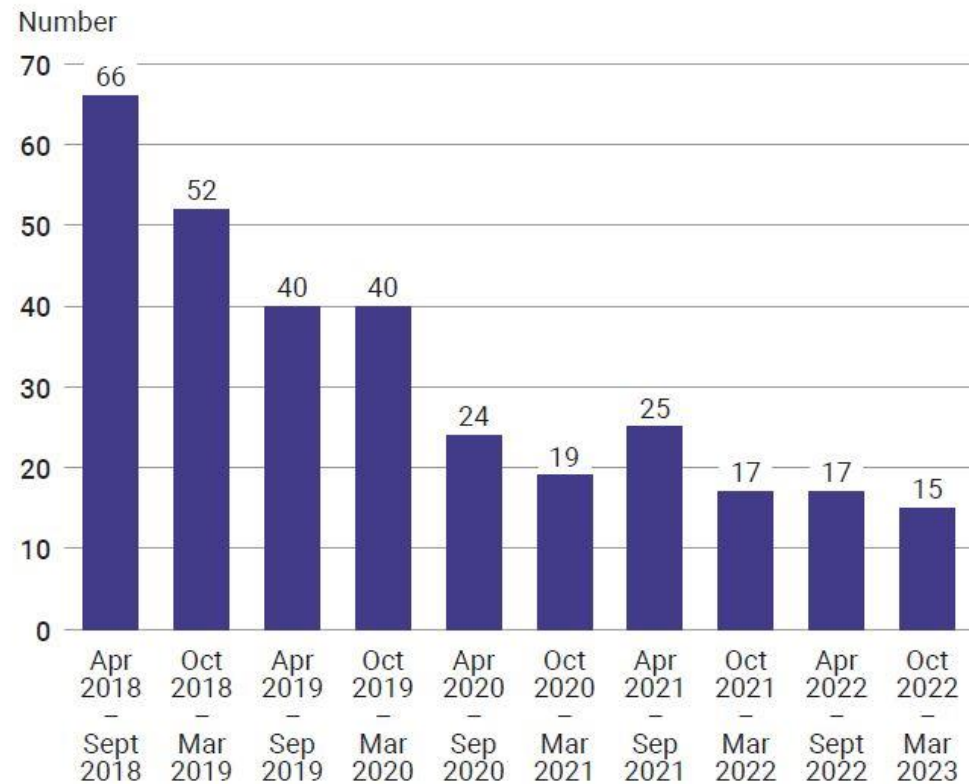


Plain packing changes

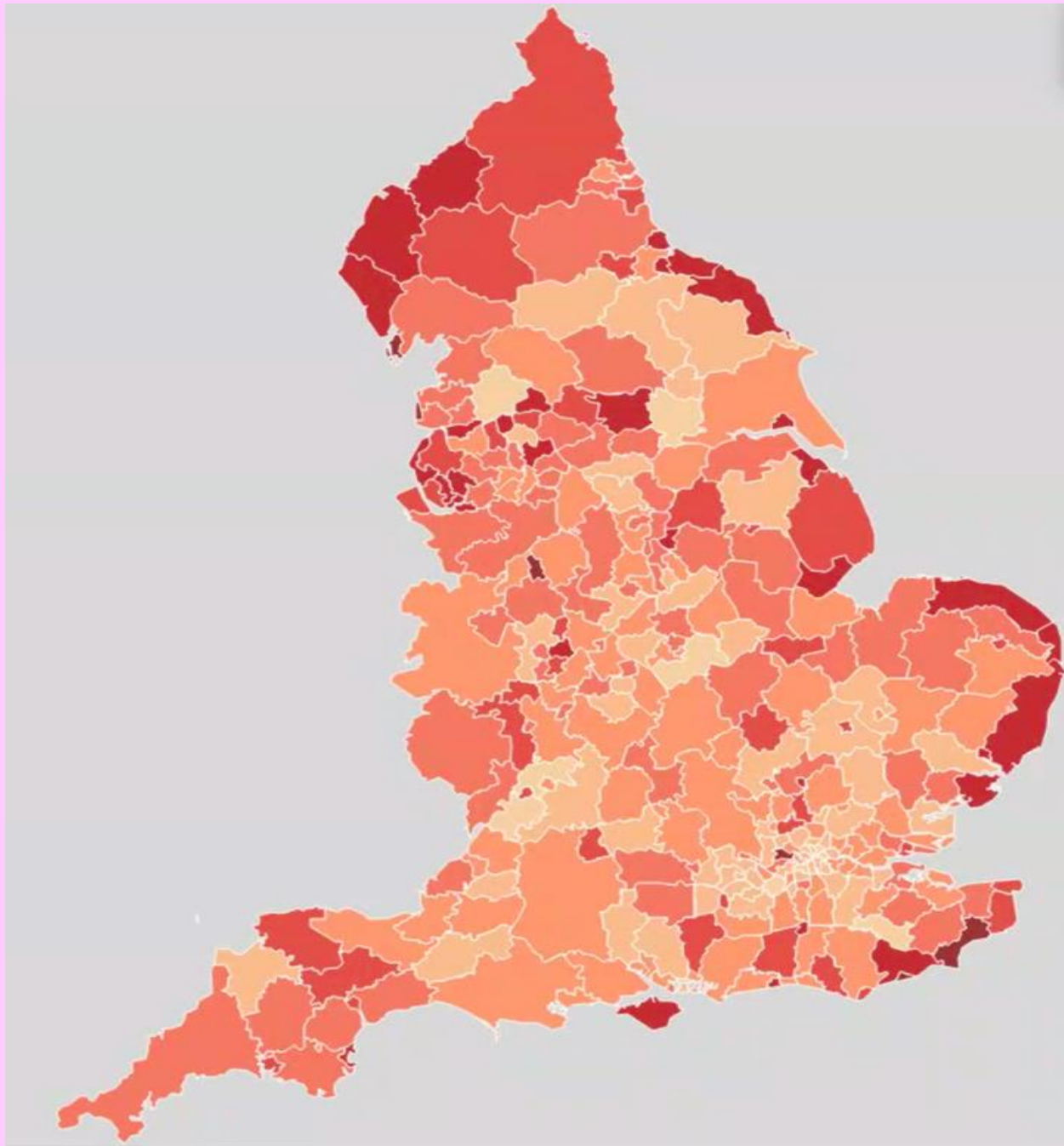


Females prescribed valproate during pregnancy

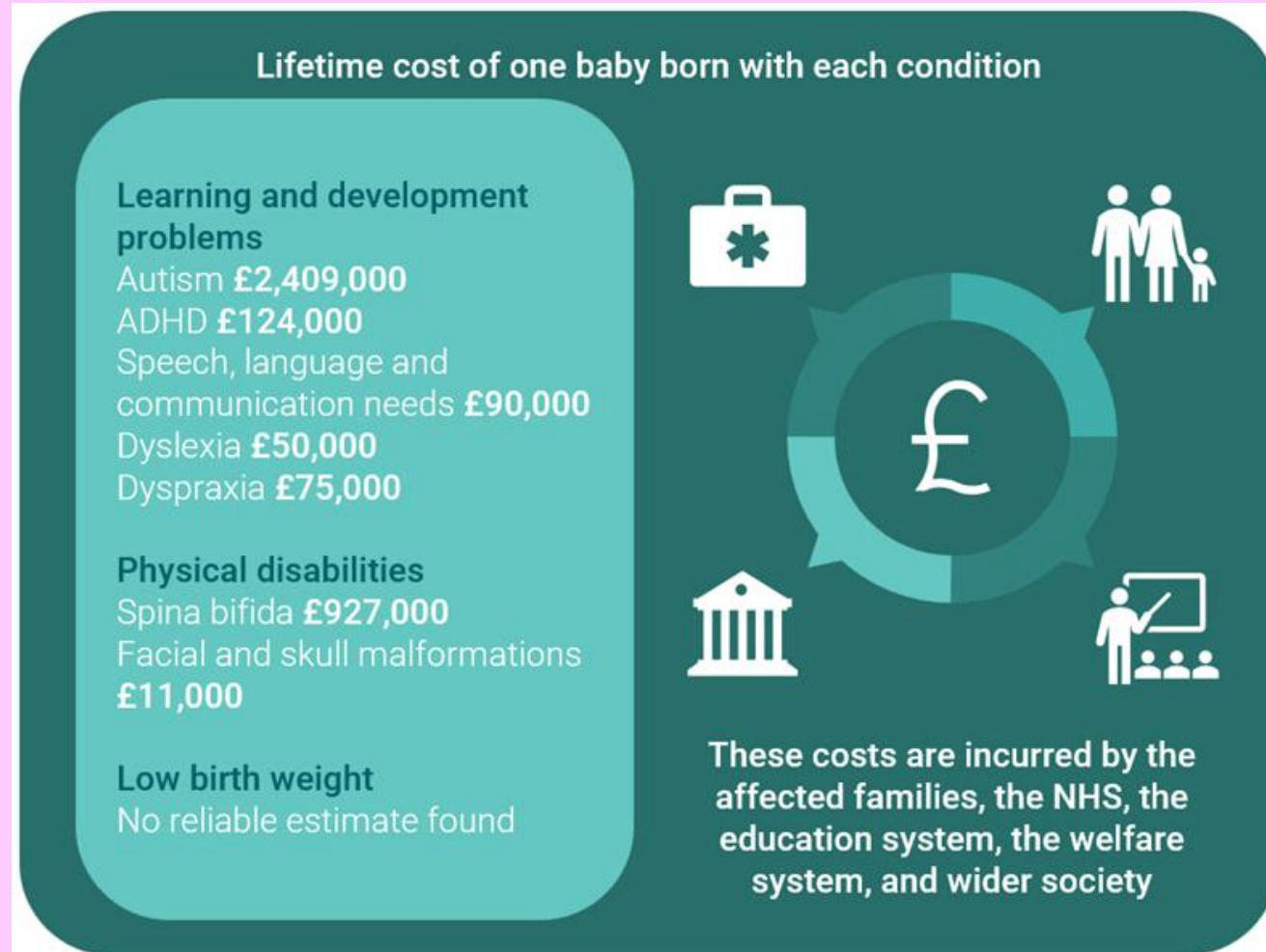
Figure 1: Number of females prescribed valproate during pregnancy within a 6-month period



Source: NHS Medicines and Pregnancy Registry. Available at:
<https://tabanalytics.data.england.nhs.uk/t/Public/views/MedsPreg/TitlePage>



The lifetime cost of conditions



Recommendation to NHS England

The Patient Safety Commissioner recommends for NHS England to have a fully funded and resourced system for improving the safe use of the most potent teratogenic medications, through a National Quality Improvement Programme for Integrated Care Systems, starting with the safe use of sodium valproate.

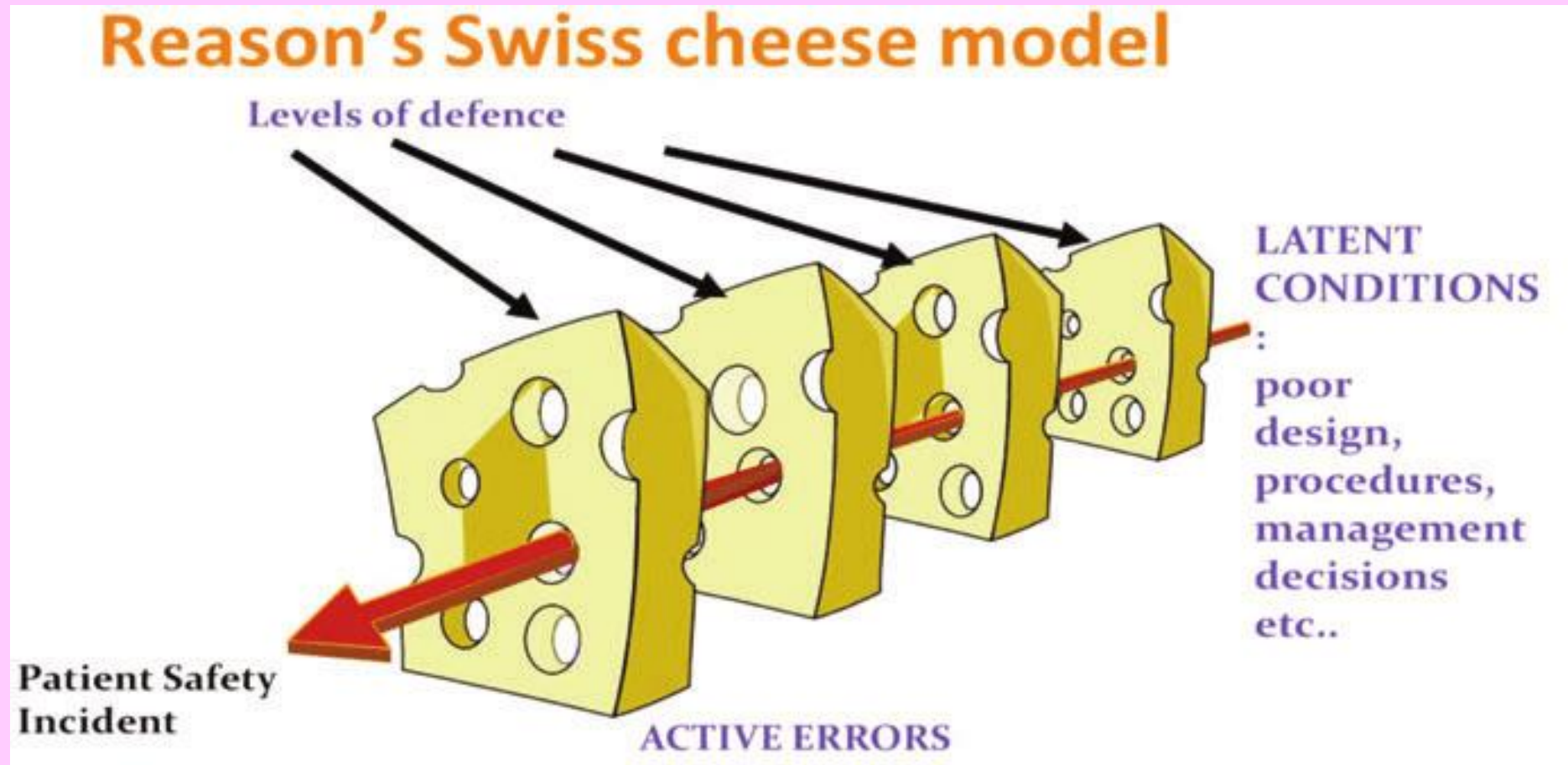
The Commissioner believes that this should be implemented by September 2024 for sodium valproate, before expanding to cover any medication with a Pregnancy Prevention Programme by September 2025.

Redress



Download the report from www.patientsafetycommissioner.org.uk

Gaps in the system



Thank you

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