

## 1.1. Coverage of global medical record (QC-1)

### 1.1.1. Documentation sheet

<b>Description</b>	Percentage of people who have a global medical record (GMR) with a general practitioner (GP)
<b>Calculation</b>	<b>Numerator:</b> number of insured persons with a global medical record or a electronic global medical record <b>Denominator:</b> all insured persons
<b>Rationale</b>	Since 2001, the GMR is implemented in Belgium. Each patient can ask a (unique) general practitioner to manage his/her medical information. <sup>a</sup> By leaving the coordination of medical care to one central person, the quality of care is expected to increase. Referral to and communication with other care providers can become more efficient, and double investigations or contrasting treatments can be avoided. Since 2016, the electronic global medical record is implemented in Belgium.
<b>Data source</b>	IMA – AIM
<b>Technical definitions</b>	RIZIV – INAMI billing codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GMR codes: 102771, 102793, 102395, 101371, 101393, completed with</li><li>• eGMR codes (since 2016): 101312, 101334, 101452, 101474, 101496, 101511, 101533, 101555, 103574, 103596.</li></ul>
<b>International comparability</b>	None
<b>Limitations</b>	Nomenclature codes are used as a proxy to calculate the present indicator. Condition for the billing is to have at least a contact with the GP during the year. It means that people without any contact during the year are not registered with a GMR even if they still keep their GMR. This phenomenon affects particularly young patients who often contact the GP less than once a year.
<b>Dimension</b>	Quality (continuity), Quality (effectiveness), Efficiency
<b>Related indicators</b>	None

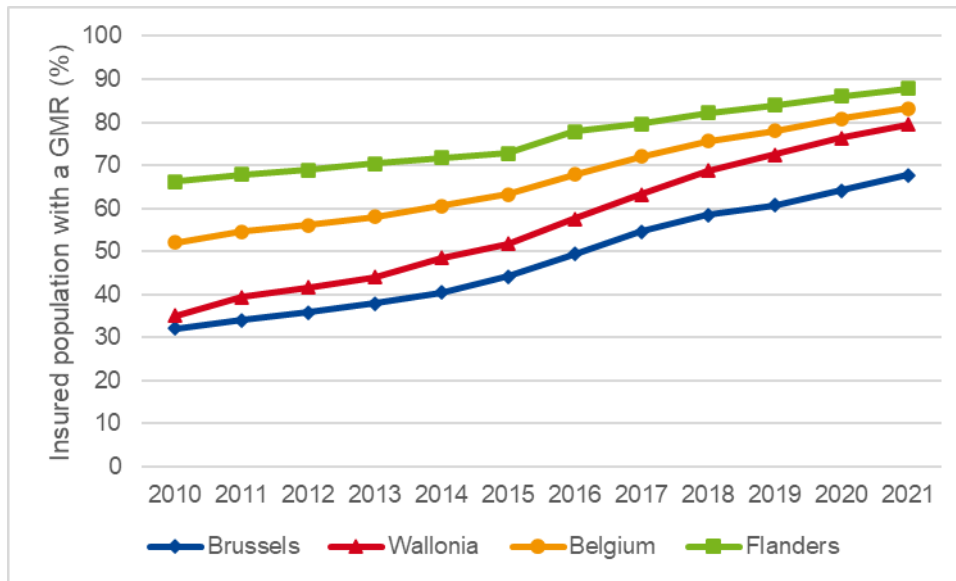
<sup>a</sup> <https://www.inami.fgov.be/fr/themes/cout-remboursement/facilite-financiere/Pages/dossier-medical-global.aspx>

### 1.1.2. Results

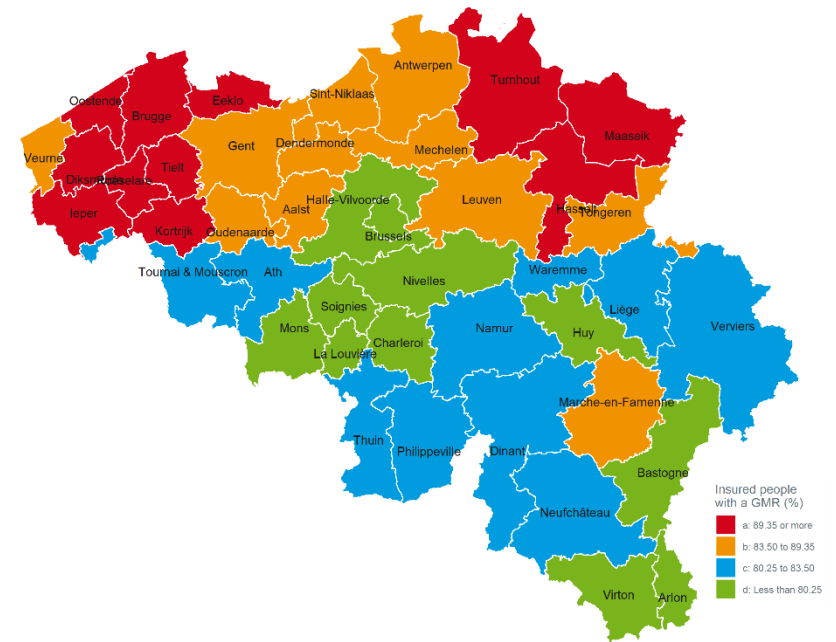
#### Belgium

In 2010, the percentage of insured persons with a global medical record (GMR) was 52.1% and reached 83.3% in 2021. The coverage of GMR by general practitioner increases continuously over the time (Figure 1).

**Figure 1 - Evolution of insured population with a GMR, by region (left) and by district (2021, right)**



Source: IMA – AIM



### Analysis by demographic characteristics and socio-economic status

The coverage of global medical record by general practitioner is higher for women (85.7% in 2021) than men (80.8% in 2021, Table 1). Among the population with a GMR in 2021, 52.3% are women. The mean age of people with a GMR in 2021 is 44 years old.<sup>b</sup> Differences in coverage can also be

observed by age group. Older insured persons have a better coverage (> 90% for persons aged 65 and over in 2021) than younger insured people (< 80% for persons 0-44 years old). People entitled to increased reimbursement have a higher coverage (85.1% of the insured people in 2021) than other people (83.2%, Table 1).

**Table 1 - Percentage of insured population with a GMR by gender, age category and entitlement to increased reimbursement (%)**

		2010	2015	2021
<b>Belgium</b>		52.1	63.2	83.3
<b>Gender</b>	Female	55.1	66.4	85.7
	Male	48.5	59.9	80.8
<b>Age category</b>	0-4	31.8	48.6	63.4
	5-14	40.2	57.6	75.1
	15-24	43.5	56.4	80.7
	25-44	44.7	56.1	81.6
	45-64	57.1	66.5	86.7
	65-74	71.1	77.0	90.6
	75 and older	76.3	82.6	93.2
<b>Entitlement to increased reimbursement</b>	Yes	57.9	69.7	85.1
	No	51.1	62.2	83.2

Source: IMA – AIM

### Regional comparison

Differences can be observed and remain large between regions and districts in 2021 (Figure 1). In Flanders, 87.8% of the insured persons are covered,

79.6% are covered in Wallonia 67.8% are covered in Brussels in 2021. Even within regions, differences in coverage can be observed: for instance, within Flemish region, Limburg and West-Vlaanderen have a better global coverage (91.0% and 91.1%, respectively) than Vlaams-Brabant (83.4%);

<sup>b</sup> [Medical practice variations, Patient file's global management](#) (2012-2022), RIZIV – INAMI

the same is observed within Wallonia: Liège and Namur have a better global coverage (81.1% and 81.0%, respectively) than Brabant wallon (75.4%, Table 2). Even if there are differences between regions, the percentage of insured persons with a GMR increases over time in the three regions (Figure 1).

**Table 2 – GMR coverage in 2021 by regions and by provinces**

Entity		GMR coverage in 2021 (%)
<b>Belgium</b>		83.3
<b>Regions</b>	Brussels	67.8
	Flanders	87.8
	Wallonia	79.6
<b>Provinces</b>	Antwerpen	86.6
	Brabant wallon	75.4
	Brussels	67.8
	Hainaut	79.4
	Limburg	91.0
	Liège	81.1
	Luxembourg	76.8
	Namur	81.0
	Oost-Vlaanderen	88.4
	Vlaams-Brabant	83.4
	West-Vlaanderen	91.1

Source: IMA-IMA

### Key points

- **The coverage of global medical record by general practitioner is growing over time, from 52.1% in 2010 to 83.3% in 2021.**
- **Differences can be observed by age group. Older insured persons have a better coverage than young people, i.e. over 90% for people aged 65 years and over have a GMR versus less than 80% for people aged below 45 years old in 2021.**
- **Differences are large between regions in 2021: the coverage is especially low in Brussels (67.8%) compared to Flanders (87.8%) and Wallonia (79.6%).**