

**DSC Notice: 17/04(W)**  
**English DSCN Equivalent: None**  
**Date of Issue: October 2004**

<b>IRSS</b> <b>Information Requirements and</b> <b>Standards Sub Committee</b>	<b>Subject:</b> To amend the All Wales Data Dictionary entry for the data term 'Ward Type at Start of Episode'
	<b>Implementation date:</b> Immediately

**DATA SET CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE**

**Summary of change:**

All Wales Data Dictionary – data term 'Ward Type at Start of Episode'; the re-introduction of the sub-element '8' to signify not specified ward types.

The change will be made to version 2.5 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

This DSCN replaces DSCN 17/04(W) version 1 which proposed to introduce a sub-element of '3'.

DSCN17/04(W) version 2 was raised and approved under Request Change Notification 05/04 version 2.

**Change Proposal Reference No:**  
**IRSS 20040924/01/OCC**

The Information Requirements and Standards Sub Committee (IRSS), is responsible for approving information standards.

*Please address enquiry's about this DSCN to the Data Standards and Information Quality Team, HSW, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF24 0HA Tel: 029 20502539 or E-mail [Data.Standards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Data.Standards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk)*

*Data Set Change Notices are available via the Intranet Service HOWIS <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/> or by contacting the above address.*

**DSCN numbering format** = sequence number/year of issue, (W) for Welsh DSCN's.

## DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE 17/04(W)

**Reference:** IRSS 20040924/01/OCC

**Subject:** To amend the All Wales Data Dictionary entry for the data term 'Ward Type at Start of Episode'

**Effective Date:** September 2004

**Reason of Change:** All Wales Data Dictionary data term 'Ward Type at Start of Episode' will be amended to re-introduce the sub-element '8' to signify non-specified wards.

### Background:

Ward Type values are derived from a concatenation of sub-elemental values to classify the type of ward to which the patient is assigned within a consultant episode. At present, the 4<sup>th</sup> of the 7 element value allows codes for male, female and 'home leave'.

Before version 2.3 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary, the value of '8' was also used to signify a 'Not Specified' Ward Type. This value was removed from subsequent versions, thus introducing the inability to identify non-specific wards

Version 1 of RCN 05/04 introduced the value of '3' to identify mixed-sex wards. However, following a request for comment from NHS Wales Trusts, it has been determined that a re-introduction of the value of '8' would best serve information quality in terms of consistency and continuity. This value will also cover, for example, mixed-sex and age-specific wards.

By the re-introduction of this value, it will eliminate the need for Trusts to alter their information systems such as PAS.

### Impact in Wales:

The Data Dictionary data term definitions for 'Ward Type at Start of Episode' will change to allow for non-specified wards. Trusts will be able to account for the correct designation of Ward Type in APC and other central returns.

### Changes To The NHS Wales Data Dictionary:

Appendix A shows the current data dictionary (version 2.4) entry.

Appendix B shows the proposed replacement entry for dissemination to the NHS Wales information community via a Dataset Change Notice (DSCN) and inclusion in the Data Dictionary version 2.5.

**Contact:**

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## **Appendix A: Current Dictionary Entry**

### **Ward Type at Start of Episode**

(APC ds99)

Identifies the ward type at start of consultant episode. This is the description of the characteristics of a ward which covers resources available to intended users. A ward is classified according to the characteristics of the majority of beds within it.

Format: 7 digit numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
AABCDEF	
AA= Clinical care intensity	
General	
11	for intensive therapy
12	for normal therapy: where resources permit the admission of patients who might need all but intensive therapy
13	for limited therapy: where nursing care rather than continuous medical care is provided. Such wards can be used only for patients carefully selected and restricted to a narrow range in terms of the extent and nature of the disease
<a href="#"><u>Younger physically disabled</u></a>	
21	spinal unit, only those units that are nationally recognised
22	other units
<a href="#"><u>Neonates</u></a>	
31	regionally designated: not associated with the maternity ward and in which there are some regionally designated cots for intensive care
32	non-maternity: not associated with the maternity ward and without regionally designated cots for

- intensive care
- 33 maternity: associated with the maternity ward in that cots are in the maternity ward nursery or in the ward itself

#### Maternity

- 41 only for patients looked after by consultants
- 42 for joint use by consultants and GMPs
- 43 only for patients looked after by GMPs

#### Mental Illness

- 51 for intensive care, a regionally designated or interim secure unit
- 52 for short stay: patients intended to stay less than a year
- 53 for long stay: patients intended to stay a year or more

#### Learning Disabilities

- 61 regionally designated or interim secure unit
- 62 short stay: patients intended to stay less than a year
- 63 long stay: patients intended to stay a year or more

#### Home leave

- 71 home leave: non-psychiatric
- 72 home leave: psychiatric

#### Other

- 81 Terminally ill/palliative care

See [Ward Type](#), [Younger Physically Disabled](#) and [Home Leave](#), Terms (A-Z)

#### B = Age

- 1 Neonates
- 2 Children and adolescents
- 3 Elderly
- 8 Any age
- 9 Home leave

**C = Sex**

- 1**                    **Male**
- 2**                    **Female**
- 9**                    **Home leave**

D = Provider type

- 1                    NHS hospital provider
- 2                    Non-NHS hospital provider
- 9                    Home leave

E = Number of days  
open during the day

- 0 - 7
- 9                    Home leave

F = Number of days  
open at night

- 0 - 7
- 9                    Home leave
- 7199999            Home leave: non-psychiatric
- 7299999            Home leave: psychiatric

## **Appendix B: Proposed Change**

### **Ward Type at Start of Episode**

**(APC ds99)**

Identifies the ward type at start of consultant episode. This is the description of the characteristics of a ward which covers resources available to intended users. A ward is classified according to the characteristics of the majority of beds within it.

Format: 7 digit numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
AABCDEF	
AA= Clinical care intensity	
General	
11	for intensive therapy
12	for normal therapy: where resources permit the admission of patients who might need all but intensive therapy
13	for limited therapy: where nursing care rather than continuous medical care is provided. Such wards can be used only for patients carefully selected and restricted to a narrow range in terms of the extent and nature of the disease

**Younger physically disabled**

21	spinal unit, only those units that are nationally recognised
22	other units

**Neonates**

31	regionally designated: not associated with the maternity ward and in which there are some regionally designated cots for intensive care
32	non-maternity: not associated with the maternity ward and without regionally designated cots for intensive care
33	maternity: associated with the maternity ward in that cots are in the maternity ward nursery or in the ward itself

**Maternity**

41	only for patients looked after by consultants
42	for joint use by consultants and GMPs
43	only for patients looked after by GMPs

**Mental Illness**

- 51 for intensive care, a regionally designated or interim secure unit
- 52 for short stay: patients intended to stay less than a year
- 53 for long stay: patients intended to stay a year or more

Learning Disabilities

- 61 regionally designated or interim secure unit
- 62 short stay: patients intended to stay less than a year
- 63 long stay: patients intended to stay a year or more

Home leave

- 71 home leave: non-psychiatric
  - 72 home leave: psychiatric
- Other
- 81 Terminally ill/palliative care

See Ward Type, Younger Physically Disabled and Home Leave, Terms (A-Z)

B = Age

- 1 Neonates
- 2 Children and adolescents
- 3 Elderly
- 8 Any age
- 9 Home leave

C = Sex

- 1 **Male**
- 2 **Female**
- 8 **Not Specified**
- 9 **Home leave**

D = Provider type

- 1 NHS hospital provider
- 2 Non-NHS hospital provider



9 Home leave

E = Number of days  
open during the day

0 - 7

9 Home leave

F = Number of days  
open at night

0 - 7

9 Home leave

7199999 Home leave: non-psychiatric

7299999 Home leave: psychiatric