WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2018 / 11
Date of Issue:	21st December 2018

Ministerial / Official Letter: N/A	**Subject:** Outpatient and Outpatient Referral data sets
Sponsor: Alun Lloyd, Programme Director, Finance Directorate, Health and Social Services Group, Welsh Government	
Implementation Date: In preparation for 2018/2019 costing returns (i.e. retrospectively from 1st April 2018)	

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

A Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) is an information mandate for a new or revised information standard.

This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) out of committee on 21st December 2018.

WISB Reference: ISRN 2017 / 016

Summary:

This standard is the first phase in updating the Outpatient data set scope to reflect modern models for providing care and treatment. The change to the Outpatient data set is reflected in a similar change to the scope of the Outpatient Referral data set.

Data sets / returns affected:

Outpatient Data Set
Outpatient Referral Data Set

Please address enquiries about this Data Standards Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in NHS Wales Informatics Service

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The Welsh Information Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WISB Outcomes relating to the approval of this standard can be found at:
http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=24632

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

<u>Introduction</u>

The 2016/17 Welsh Costing Return (WCR4) 'Activity Reconciliation' return, prepared annually by health boards, highlighted discrepancies between outpatient activity levels recorded and reported formally to NHS Wales via NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) and activity recorded locally in health boards.

Currently there is outpatient activity captured locally that does not meet the Outpatient data set scope definition and therefore not reported nationally to NWIS. In addition, there is inconsistency in terms of health board compliance with the existing scope definition of the data set, with some health boards including all nursing activity, not just independent nurse led activity, some submitting nurse activity under the code of the consultant, and others not submitting any.

The omission of significant activity from the data submitted means that published activity reports may materially understate the level and range of clinical services delivered by NHS Wales. Additionally, if activity remains unreported, or continues to be categorised incorrectly and inconsistently, the unit costs of healthcare services in Wales could be misrepresented.

This Standard represents the first stage of a phased approach, aimed to introduce new and updated data definitions associated with outpatient activity, in order to reflect modern models for providing care and treatment and present a more accurate account of the services being delivered.

Description of Change

To increase the scope of the Outpatient data set (OP ds) and Outpatient Referral data set (OPR ds) to include nurse led activity, specifically to:
- Update the definition scope of the OP Ds to encompass activity as outlined in Appendix B.
- Update the definition scope of the OPR Ds to encompass activity as outlined in Appendix B.
- Update the Data Item Consultant Code, for OP ds only, to support the national submission of the Registration Number for any nurse (including midwives) meeting the definition of Clinic Appointment (Non Consultant/Nurse Led). Where the Registration Number for the nurse or midwife is not registered with the Welsh Reference Data Service (WRDS), that the following codes should be used:

  M9999998 - Midwife
  N9999998 - Nurse

For the revised scope and additional code to be implemented by Health Boards in their 2018-2019 annual costing submissions

Data Dictionary Version

Where applicable, this DSCN reflects changes introduced by DSCN and/or DDCN since the release of version 4.9 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

The changes introduced by such DSCNs will be published in version 4.10 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Actions Required

Actions for Local Health Boards / Trusts:

- Apply the additional clarity provided by the scope definitions for the OP Ds and OPR Ds
- Report Consultant Codes for OP Ds according to the guidance in Appendix B
- Implement the revised scope and additional code in 2018-2019 annual costing submissions
- Work to add nurse and midwife registration numbers to the Welsh Reference Data Service (WRDS) and incorporate these identifiers into OP ds records

Actions for NHS Wales Informatics Service:

- Update VASS check 51213: Invalid Consultant Code to reflect the changes to Consultant Code

Actions for NHS Finance Delivery Unit:

- Work to the revised scope and additional codes submitted by health boards in their 2018-2019 annual costing submissions

Appendix A: Table reflecting areas that are impacted as a result of this DSCN

The following table shows where there are changes to the scope and/or definitions of applicable data sets, data items, terms and other associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

Each data definition type is listed in alphabetical order and is shown in the sequence in which it appears in this DSCN.

Data Definition Type	Name	New/Retired/ Changed	Page Number
Data Set Scope	Outpatient Data Set (OP Ds)	Changed	5
Data Set Scope	Outpatient Referral Data Set (OPR Ds)	Changed	5
Terms	Clinic Appointment – Consultant Led (Outpatients)	New	5
Terms	Clinic Appointment – Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatients)	New	6
Data Item	Consultant Code (for OP Ds only)	Changed	6

Appendix B: Highlighted changes to be made to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary

Changes to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary are detailed below, with new text being highlighted in **blue** and deletions are shown with a ~~strikethrough.~~ The text shaded in **grey** shows existing text copied from the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Scope Outpatient Data Set

The Outpatient (OP) Data Set captures data for all consultant or non-consultant/nurse led clinic activity. ~~independent nurse-led or midwifery outpatient activity.~~
Any activity which is not consultant or non-consultant/nurse led ~~undertaken by a consultant, independent nurse or midwife should be excluded. For example, non-clinic attendances with a consultant are within scope, whilst ward attenders that do not involve a consultant are not.~~ should be excluded. Also excluded are:

Community non consultant/nurse led activity

Ward Attenders

Both attendances and non-attendances are within scope, including DNAs, CNAs and hospital cancellations (see http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/407/Final%20Master-%20RTT%20-%20rules%20document-%20Just%20RTT-April%202017.pdf)

All NHS activity regardless of the care provider is included. Private patients seen at an NHS organisation are also included.

NHS Digital provide data on Welsh resident or registered patients treated in English NHS organisations.

Scope Outpatient Referral Data Set

The Outpatient Referral (OPR) Data Set captures all referrals received by NHS Wales' provider organisations for a first outpatient appointment for all consultant or non-consultant/nurse led clinic activity ~~with a consultant, independent nurse or midwife,~~ regardless of the patient's area of residence.

The data set includes referrals from any source and is not limited to only those referrals made by a GP.

Terms Clinic Appointment – Consultant Led (Outpatients)

This is a scheduled outpatient appointment for a patient to see a consultant (or a member of their firm) for the purpose of a consultation, or an outpatient procedure.

A consultant is a person contracted by a Health Care Provider who has been appointed by a consultant's appointment committee. He or she must be a member of a Royal College or Faculty. This also includes clinics run by General Practitioners acting as a Consultant.

This excludes:

Nurses, independent nurses or midwives who may be part of the consultant's firm but lead their own clinics (see Clinic Appointment – Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatient))

Ward Attenders

Terms Clinic Appointment – Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatients)

This is a scheduled outpatient appointment for a patient to see a nurse for the purposes of an assessment, treatment, advice or counselling. These appointments take place in clinics where nurses/midwives have their own list of patients who are not expected to see, or be in contact with, a doctor (even though they may refer patients to the doctor be seen or be in contact during the same attendance or contact).

A nurse/midwife is a person whose name is registered in the Nursing and Midwifery Council Register maintained by Nursing and Midwifery Council. Historically, Local Health Boards /Trusts have used different titles to denote nurses carrying out nurse-led activity e.g. Independent Nurse, Specialist Nurse, Clinic Nurse Specialist, Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Consultant.

For the purpose of the scope of the Outpatient (OP) Data Set and Outpatient Referral (OPR) Data Set, all nurses and midwives are included, providing they meet the aforementioned criteria. Such activity should be identified as non consultant/nurse led. See Consultant Code

This excludes:

Community non consultant/nurse led activity

Ward Attenders

Data Item Consultant Code

Change History	
DSCN 2017 / 11	Core Reference Data Standards
DSCN 2015 / 03	Radiotherapy Data Set
DSCN 2012 / 11	Elective Admission List Data Set (EAL Ds)
DSCN 2010 / 01	Revisions to the Emergency Department Data Set

DSCN (2009) 02 (W)	Emergency Department Data Set
DSCN (2008) 07 (W)	The Introduction of Valid Period Date Ranges for Data Items within the APC Data Set
DSCN (2007) 02 (W)	To update the NHS Wales Dictionary with the format change to the GMC, GDC and Practice Codes.
DSCN (2006) 01 (W)	To introduce Independent Nurse Activity in the Outpatient ds + QS1
DSCN 63/02 (W)	Data Standards: Definitions of Nurse and Midwife added to NHS Wales Data Dictionary and description of Consultant Code updated.

This data item is / was included in the following data sets / collections between the dates shown:

Data Set / Collection	Valid From	Valid To
APC	Pre 28th December 1995	
EAL	1st April 1999	21st November 2012
OP	1st April 1999	
EDDS	1st April 2009	31st March 2010
RTDS	1st April 2014	

Nationally agreed form for consultant code or Independent Nurse. It is the General Medical Council (GMC) code for the Consultant or the GP acting as a Consultant or locum

Consultant, which is the unique identifier. The nurse's Registration Number will be used to identify the Independent Nurse.

Format: 8 character alpha-numeric

Value	Meaning	Valid From	Valid To
XXXXXXXX	Consultant code based upon General Medical Council registration number. The first character of the code is usually a 'C'. The 2nd to 8th characters are the GMC registration number.	Pre 28th December 1995	
LNNNNNNN	*Code for Limited Registered doctor. (Note: the first two digits will normally be the year in which limited registration was granted)*	*Pre 28th December 1995*	*28th February 2007*
DDNNNNNN DD/NNNNN	For Dental Consultants who have not been registered with the GMC the General Dental Council (GDC) number has to be used. (The slash character represents a space. The slash must not be used in data for central returns)	1st March 2007	
DD//NNNN	*For Dental Consultants who have not been registered with the GMC the General Dental Council (GDC) number has to be used. (The slash character represents a space. The slash must not be used in data for central returns)*	*Pre 28th December 1995*	*28th February 2007*
C9999998	*Consultant code not known*	*1st May 1998*	*20th February 2002*
C9999998	For NHS patients treated overseas, if the overseas doctor does not have a GMC code.	21st June 2004	

D9999998	*Dentist Code not known*	*1ˢᵗ May 1998*	*20ᵗʰ February 2002*
M9999998	Midwife-led Activity If the patient episode is under the direct care of a Midwife the default Consultant Code must be M9999998 and the Treatment Function Code must be '560'.	1ˢᵗ April 2000 Amended 1ˢᵗ April 2006	
	For OP ds only:-		
YYYYYYYY	Independent Nurse The Nurse's Registration Number is used to record nurse-led activity in an Outpatients environment by an Independent Nurse	1ˢᵗ April 2006	Insert relevant Date
NNANNNNA	Nurse-led Activity or Midwife-led Activity Registration Number for any nurse (including midwife) meeting the definition of Clinic Appointment Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatients).	Insert relevant Date	
N9999998	*Nurse-led Activity - code not known* For any nurse (excluding midwife) meeting the definition of Clinic Appointment Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatients), where the Registration Number is not known, or is not registered with the Welsh Reference Data Service (WRDS).	Insert relevant Date	
M9999998	*Midwife-led Activity – code not known* For any midwife meeting the definition of Clinic Appointment Non Consultant/Nurse Led (Outpatients),	Insert relevant Date	

	where the Registration Number is not known, or is not registered with the Welsh Reference Data Service (WRDS).		

See [GDC Registration Number](#)

See [GMC Registration Number](#)