

1st April 2023

**VASS Checks 50172, 50609 (APC), 51236 and 51611 (OP) amended
Invalid Principal Procedure Code, Inconsistent Sex vs. Primary Procedure
Code, Invalid Primary Procedure Code and Inconsistent Primary Procedure
Code (OPCS) vs. Sex**

OPCS-4 is the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys Classification of Surgical Operations and Procedures (OPCS) (4th revision). This statistical classification translates into code, operations and surgical procedures that can be carried out on a patient during an episode of health care.

From 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2023, the valid version of OPCS was version 4.9.

On 1st November 2022 NHS England published Information Standards Notice DABP0084 Amd 36/2022, to mandate OPCS v4.10 from 1st April 2023 in NHS England. This implementation timescale is endorsed by the Welsh Information Standards Board for NHS Wales and mandated in [DSCN 2023 / 08](#) for NHS Wales.

Version 4.10 was published by the Clinical Classifications Service of NHS Digital and was introduced across NHS Wales on 1st April 2023.

The following Admitted Patient Care (APC) VASS checks have been updated to reflect the introduction of OPCS 4.10:

- 50172: Invalid Principal Procedure Code
- 50609: Inconsistent Sex vs. Primary Procedure Code

The following Outpatient (OP) VASS checks have been updated to reflect the introduction of OPCS 4.10:

- 51236: Invalid Primary Procedure Code
- 51611: Inconsistent Primary Procedure Code (OPCS) vs. Sex