

WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2024 / 13
Date of Issue:	28 th August 2024

Welsh Health Circular/Official Letter: N/A	Subject: Elective Theatre Optimisation
Sponsor: Olivia Shorrocks Welsh Government and Loretta Reilly NHS Wales Executive	
Implementation Date: 1 st October 2023	
DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE	
<p>A Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) is an information mandate for a new or revised information standard.</p> <p>This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) at its meeting on 20th June 2024</p> <p>WISB Reference: ISRN 2023/ 038</p>	
Summary: The introduction of a standardised Elective Theatre Optimisation dataset to support health boards to achieve optimal theatre utilisation and challenge/support health boards with the introduction of new ways of working across surgical specialities.	
Data sets / returns affected: N/A	
<p>Please address enquiries about this Data Standards Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in Digital Health and Care Wales</p> <p>E-mail: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk</p>	
<p>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:</p> <p>https://nhs.wales365.sharepoint.com/sites/DHC_DST/Lists/Information%20Standards%20Assurance%20Submission%20Log/AllItems.aspx</p>	

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

Introduction

A pilot of the Elective Theatre Optimisation Programme began in May-23 with two Health Boards (CTMUHB and BCUHB) working with NHS Wales Executive, Welsh Government and GIRFT to analyse the data and make improvements. Work to include all NHS Wales Health Boards began in Oct-23.

Phase One of the Elective Optimisation Programme began in Oct-23 and will continue to the end of Mar-24. The programme will continue from Apr-24 onwards and will be managed by the NHS Wales Executive Strategic Programme for Planned Care.

This Programme will focus on supporting health boards to achieve optimal theatre utilisation and challenge / support health boards with the introduction of new ways of working across surgical specialties.

The aim of the Programme is to:

1. Support Wales to establish an elective optimisation Programme to drive operational efficiency in theatres and achieve uptake in High Volume Low Complexity Cases (HVLC) and best practice GIRFT Pathways.
2. Advise and recommend on structures and proven approaches for both the national Programme and Welsh Government to take to increase likelihood of success. and
3. Oversee progress across Wales and with each Health Board to ensure that:
 - Each health board works to achieve 85% capped theatre utilisation and meet or exceed the wider theatre productivity measures (late start, early finish, inter-case downtime)
 - Each health board works to achieve no more than 15% of all surgical procedures delivered as an inpatient admission, by maximising day case throughput to 85%
 - Each health board works to achieve theatre throughput at HVLC cases per list, to minimise cancellations for avoidable reasons and to not provide patients with a date for theatre unless passed fit by pre-assessment.

The Elective Theatre Optimisation Programme (Phase One) Terms of reference is included in Appendix Two. A new NHS Wales Executive Terms of Reference will be completed for phase two with the same programme aims carried forward from phase one.

Scope

- Dataset specification requires data from theatres across all NHS Wales Theatres and will include theatre process times.
- *Who would use standard:* All NHS Organisation Elective Theatre Optimisation Programme members. This will include all Health Boards, NHS Wales Executive, DHCW & Welsh Government.

Actions Required

Local Health Boards / Trusts:

- Ensure that local processes and systems have been updated to comply with the standard set out in the Information Specification within this DSCN.
- The data fields highlighted as 'non-mandatory' are as such due to Health Boards stating they cannot submit the data at this time. Where Health Boards can submit this data, it is requested that the data is submitted to allow the Health Boards to use their own data to make improvements.
- One of the non-mandatory fields is 'session type'. This field is used as part of the elective / emergency split algorithm so if Health Boards cannot provide this specific field, there is requirement to continue to provide this information or to provide an alternative.
- If a Health Board cannot provide a data field, they will need to highlight this to the Elective Theatre Optimisation Programme Team who will work with the Health Board to resolve.

Digital Health and Care Wales:

- Ensure that all national systems have been updated to comply with the standard set out in the Information Specification within this DSCN.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

SPECIFICATION

Information Specification

The table below lists the Data Items and corresponding definitions and values that make up the information standard mandated by this DSCN.

Refer to Appendix A for a detailed information specification



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Appendix A:

Elective Theatre Optimisation – [Information Specification](#)