

DSC Notice: DSCN (2007) 07 (W)
English DSCN Equivalent: n/a
Initiating Welsh Reference: WHC (2007) 030
Date of Issue: February 2007

WIGSB Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board	Subject: Proposal for the increase in scope to the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times
	Implementation date: 1 st April 2007

DATASET CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

Summary of change:

The purpose of this DSCN is to inform providers and suppliers of the inclusion of 5 new diagnostic tests in the monthly data collection of the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times. These tests are: -

- Imaging – Fluoroscopy
- Neurophysiology - Electromyography
- Neurophysiology – Nerve conduction tests
- Physiological measurement – Urodynamic test
- Physiological measurement – Vascular technology

WIGSB Reference No: 20070315003
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Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board (WIGSB), is responsible for approving information standards.

Please address enquiries about Dataset change proposals 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

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

Draft DSCN numbering format = (year of draft) 2-alpha character sequence (W).

Upon receiving approval for the change by WISGB, the draft DSCN number will be reformatted to:
DSCN number format = year of issue /sequence number, (W)

In addition,

WIGSB Reference No. format = year/month/day/sequence number (relates to when WIGSB approved change)

DSCN Distribution List

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Catherine Bridges	Information Services Division, Information Analysis	Welsh Assembly Government
Claudia Blair	Health Statistics & Analysis Unit	Welsh Assembly Government

Martyn Rees	Department of Health and Social Services	Welsh Assembly Government
Pam Hall	Corporate Health Information Programme	Welsh Assembly Government
Jackie Bracey	Information Services Division, Data Standards	Welsh Assembly Government
Sue Leake	Health Statistics & Analysis Unit	Welsh Assembly Government

Document Control

Version:	Issued on:	Owner	Details:
0.01	12/02/07	JE	Initial draft for review
0.02	06/03/07	JE	Changes following DSCN Subgroup
0.03	28/03/07	JE	Changes as recommended by WIGSB (March); add reference to DSCN (2007) 04(W). Also, include reference to WHC (2007) 030
1.0	28/03/07	JE	Final approval gained from WIGSB15/03/07. This DSCN was formally known as DSCN (2007) AH (W)

DATASET CHANGE NOTICE (2007) AH (W)

Reference: WIGSB *20070315003*

Subject: **Proposal for the increase in scope to the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times**

Reason for Change: To enable the monitoring of waits for diagnostic and therapy procedures in line with 'Designed for Life'.

Effective Date: 1st April 2007

1. Background:

The Access 2009 Project was established to support the achievement of the 26 week total patient pathway. This pathway covers the wait from GP or Dental referral to treatment and includes waiting times for any required diagnostic tests and therapies.

Currently waiting times are reported monthly across a range of specialities and for specified diagnostic and therapy services. However, there are a number of diagnostic tests that are not included.

Between January and March, pilot projects were undertaken to collect aggregated data on waits for 5 new diagnostic tests.

Following this pilot collection, this DSCN informs the service of the mandating of 5 additional diagnostic tests as part of the monthly Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times data collection. These tests are covered under 3 Service headings.

Guidance on the reporting structure of the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times monthly data collections can be found in DSCN (2007) 04 (W).

2. Impact for Trusts:

- 2.1 The scope of the 5 additional diagnostic tests to be included as detailed in WHC (2007) 030.
- 2.2 From 1st April 2007, Trusts will include the aggregated counts for these additional diagnostic tests in their monthly data collection of Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times.

Appendix A is a matrix showing associated data items which are affected by this change and those which are not affected.

Appendix B lists the current definitions and standards with changes highlighted.

Appendix C shows the amended definitions as they will appear in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Additional Information:

Please address enquiries about this DSCN to: -

*Data Standards and Information Quality Team
Health Solutions Wales
14th Floor - Brunel House
2 Fitzalan Road
Cardiff
CF24 0HA*

*Tel: 029 20502539
Fax: 029 20502504*

E-mail: Datastandards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk

Appendix A

The following table shows all Data Items associated with the changes documented within this DSCN and the implications of this DSCN on their definitions as currently held in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary: -

Data Items			
New Items	Item Deleted	Definition Changed	Definition Not affected
-	-	Service Heading	-
		Sub Heading	

Appendix B

Changes to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary are detailed below, with new text being highlighted in **blue** and deletions identified with a **strikethrough**.

The shaded text identifies text which has been copied from the NHS Wales Data Dictionary

a) Under the chapter 'Data Items and Terms (Grouped by Data Set)/ Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times': -

Background and Definitions

1. In July 2001 the 'Waiting Times Strategy' confirmed a commitment to extend publication of waiting times to include diagnostic and therapy services.

Consequently, a new monthly data collection was piloted to cover referrals to specified diagnostic and therapy practice.

2. In May 2003, the success of the pilot was announced and the continuation of the monthly collection was confirmed.

3. The data submission is mandatory from 2004.

4. In January 2007 a pilot was undertaken to enable the monitoring of services to meet the 'Designed for Life' 26 weeks wait from referral to treatment targets. WHC (2007) 002 was issued to mandate a new file format for the Diagnostics and Therapies Waiting Times. This new file format will provide consistency across all wait returns. This WHC also covered the requirement to provide waits in revised weekly time bands.

5. From April 2007, 5 additional diagnostic tests are mandated as part of the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times data collection.

b) Under the chapter 'Data Items (A-Z)': -

- Changes to existing data items:-

Service Heading
(DT Waiting Times)

Name of specified diagnostic and therapy services for which the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times is based.

Specified services and therapies are: -

Radiology – GP Referral

Radiology – Consultant Referral

Cardiology

Audiology

Arts Therapies

Dietetics

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Speech & Language

Podiatry

Imaging

Neurophysiology

Physiological measurement

These are sub-divided into [Service Sub Headings](#).

Service Sub Heading
(DT Waiting Times)

Sub divisions of the specified services used for the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times of Diagnostic and Therapy Services.

See [Service Heading](#)

Service	Service Sub Heading	Additional Information
<p>Radiology – GP Referral</p> <p>Radiology – Consultant Referral</p>	<p>Barium Enema</p> <p>C.T.</p> <p>M.R.</p> <p>Non-Obstetric Ultrasound</p> <p>Nuclear Medicine</p>	<p>Waiting time from waiting list date until census date.</p> <p>Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date the diagnostic test for which they are waiting is carried out.</p>
<p>Cardiology</p>	<p>Stress Test</p> <p>Echo Cardiogram</p>	<p>A stress test is a non-invasive procedure to record the heart's electrical activity during exercise.</p> <p>An echo cardiogram is a non-invasive ultrasound procedure used to diagnose cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>Waiting times from waiting list date until the census date.</p>

		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date the diagnostic test for which they have been referred is carried out.
Audiology (Adult Hearing Aids)	Consultant GP	A hearing aid is described as an externally worn electronic listening device. Waiting times from waiting list date until the census date. Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date their hearing aid is fitted.
Dietetics	Adults Paediatrics	
Physiotherapy	Adults Paediatrics	
Occupational Therapy	Adults Paediatrics Learning Disabilities Mental Health	Waiting time from waiting list date until the census date. Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services).
Speech & Language	Adults Paediatrics	

	<p>Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Mental Health</p>	
Arts Therapies	<p>Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Mental Health</p>	
Podiatry	<p>Urgent</p> <p>Routine</p>	
Imaging	Fluoroscopy	<p>Waiting time from waiting list date until census date.</p> <p>Fluoroscopy is an imaging technique commonly used by physicians to obtain real-time images of the internal structures of a patient through the use of a fluoroscope.</p>
Neurophysiology	<p>Electromyography</p> <p>Nerve conduction studies</p>	<p>Waiting time from waiting list date until census date.</p> <p>Electromyography (EMG) is a diagnostic procedure that measures the electrical activity of the muscle to gather information about muscular system.</p> <p>Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS) measure the function of the peripheral nervous system, i.e. nerves and muscles</p>
Physiological	Urodynamic tests	Waiting time from waiting list date until census date.

measurement	Vascular technology	Urodynamics is an umbrella term describing physiological measurements of the bladder and urethra's ability to fulfil these functions, including pressures & flows. Used to detect abnormalities within the vascular system, assisting a physician's diagnosis and decisions to treat surgically or otherwise.
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Appendix C

The following depicts the amended dictionary items as they will appear in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

a) Under the chapter 'Data Items and Terms (Grouped by Data Set)/ Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times': -

Background and Definitions

1. In July 2001 the 'Waiting Times Strategy' confirmed a commitment to extend publication of waiting times to include diagnostic and therapy services.

Consequently, a new monthly data collection was piloted to cover referrals to specified diagnostic and therapy practice.

2. In May 2003, the success of the pilot was announced and the continuation of the monthly collection was confirmed.

3. The data submission is mandatory from 2004.

4. In January 2007 a pilot was undertaken to enable the monitoring of services to meet the 'Designed for Life' 26 weeks wait from referral to treatment targets. WHC (2007) 002 was issued to mandate a new file format for the Diagnostics and Therapies Waiting Times. This new file format will provide consistency across all wait returns. This WHC also covered the requirement to provide waits in revised weekly time bands.

5. From April 2007, 5 additional diagnostic tests are mandated as part of the Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times data collection.

b) Under the chapter 'Data Items (A-Z)': -

**Service Heading
(DT Waiting Times)**

Name of specified diagnostic and therapy services for which the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times is based.

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Radiology – Consultant Referral

Cardiology

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Speech & Language

Arts Therapies

Podiatry

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Neurophysiology

Physiological measurement

These are sub-divided into [Service Sub Headings](#).

**Service Sub Heading
(DT Waiting Times)**

Sub divisions of the specified services used for the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times of Diagnostic and Therapy Services.

See [Service Heading](#)

Service	Service Sub Heading	Additional Information
<p>Radiology – GP Referral</p> <p>Radiology – Consultant Referral</p>	<p>Barium Enema</p> <p>C.T.</p> <p>M.R.</p> <p>Non-Obstetric Ultrasound</p> <p>Nuclear Medicine</p>	<p>Waiting time from waiting list date until census date.</p> <p>Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date the diagnostic test for which they are waiting is carried out.</p>
<p>Cardiology</p>	<p>Stress Test</p> <p>Echo Cardiogram</p>	<p>A stress test is a non-invasive procedure to record the heart's electrical activity during exercise.</p> <p>An echo cardiogram is a non-invasive ultrasound procedure used to diagnose cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>Waiting times from waiting list date until the census date.</p> <p>Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date the diagnostic test for which they have been referred is carried out.</p> <p>.</p>

Audiology (Adult Hearing Aids)	Consultant GP	A hearing aid is described as an externally worn electronic listening device. Waiting times from waiting list date until the census date. Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date their hearing aid is fitted.
Dietetics	Adults Paediatrics	Waiting time from waiting list date until the census date. Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services).
Physiotherapy	Adults Paediatrics	
Occupational Therapy	Adults Paediatrics Learning Disabilities Mental Health	
Speech & Language	Adults Paediatrics	

	Learning Disabilities Mental Health	
Arts Therapies	Learning Disabilities Mental Health	
Podiatry	Urgent Routine	
Imaging	Fluoroscopy	Waiting time from waiting list date until census date. Fluoroscopy is an imaging technique commonly used by physicians to obtain real-time images of the internal structures of a patient through the use of a fluoroscope.
Neurophysiology	Electromyography Nerve conduction studies	Waiting time from waiting list date until census date. Electromyography (EMG) is a diagnostic procedure that measures the electrical activity of the muscle to gather information about muscular system. Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS) measure the function of the peripheral nervous system, i.e. nerves and muscles
Physiological measurement	Urodynamic tests	Waiting time from waiting list date until census date. Urodynamics is an umbrella term describing physiological measurements of the

	Vascular technology	bladder and urethra's ability to fulfil these functions, including pressures & flows. Used to detect abnormalities within the vascular system, assisting a physician's diagnosis and decisions to treat surgically or otherwise.
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