

**DSC Notice: DSCN (2009) 04 (W)**  
**English DSCN Equivalent: 30/2008**  
**Initiating Welsh Reference: n/a**  
**Date of Issue: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2009**

<b>WIGSB</b> <b>Welsh Information Governance</b> <b>and Standards Board</b>	<b>Subject:</b> The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys Classification of Interventions and Procedures (OPCS) version 4.5
	<b>Implementation date:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2009

**Summary of change:**

To introduce version 4.5 of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys Classification of Interventions and Procedures (OPCS) across NHS Wales.

This information will be included in version 2.21 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary

<b>WIGSB Reference No:</b> <b>IGRN2009/005</b>
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Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board (WIGSB), is responsible for approving information standards.

Please address enquiries about Data Set change proposals to the Data Standards and Data 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/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=299> or by contacting the above address.

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

Upon receiving approval for the change by WIGSB, the draft DSCN number will be reformatted to:

**DSCN number format** = (year of issue) 2-character numeric (W)

In addition,

**WIGSB Reference No. format** = WIGSB Submission Reference

## DSCN Distribution List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Carol Davies	Data Services Co-ordinator	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Helen Thomas	Acting Assistant Director of Information	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Gareth Lee	Head of Information Services	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Deborah Usher	Information Manager	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
John Dicker	Regional IM&T Manager	Business Services Centre
Eluned Cousins	Regional Information Manager	Business Services Centre
Mark Piper	Information Services Business Manager	Business Services Centre
Trevor Hughes	Regional Information Manager	Business Services Centre
Tim O'Sullivan	Regional Information Manager	Business Services Centre
Vince Lacey	Acting Head of IM&T Manager	Business Services Centre
Alan Roderick	Acting Head of Performance & Information	Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
Kerry Ashmore	Information Modernisation & Development Manager	Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
Steven Thomson	Information Manager	Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
Gordon Craig	Head of Performance	Cwm Taf NHS Trust
Graham Crooks	Information Manager	Cwm Taf NHS Trust
Jack Attwood	Director of IM&T	Cwm Taf NHS Trust
Lloyd Bishop	Head of Information Services	Cwm Taf NHS Trust
Sonia Stevens	Head of Information	Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust
Cath Jones	Principal Information Manager	Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust
Robin Jones	Director of Informatics	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Carl Davies	Deputy Software Development Manager	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Debbie Croft	Information Manager	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Eric Lewis	Head of Information	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Richard Noyce	Senior Information Analyst	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Nia Jones	Acting Information Services Manager	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Michelle Campbell	Corporate Information Manager	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Richard Walker	Acting Head of IM&T	North Wales NHS Trust (Central)
Peter Burcham	Senior Information Analyst	North Wales NHS Trust (Central)
Christine Fisher	Head of Information	North Wales NHS Trust (East)
Janet Holmes	Information Analyst Community & Mental Health	North Wales NHS Trust (East)
Jeff Pye	Head of IM&T	North West Wales NHS Trust
Vaughan Hughes	Information Manager	North West Wales NHS Trust
Lynda James	Head of Information	Powys LHB
Mike Jones	Operational	Powys LHB
Tracey Jones	Information Services Manager	Powys LHB
Dave Morrey	Information Manager	Velindre NHS Trust
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### Document Control

<b>Version:</b>	<b>Changed on:</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Details:</b>
0.01	17/02/09	JE	Initial draft
0.02	11/03/09	JE	Amended following DSCN Subgroup 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2009
1.0	23/03/09	JE	Issued to service following approval at March WIGSB. DSCN previously known as DSCN (2009) AF(W)

**DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE (2009) 04 (W)**

**WIGSB Reference:** IGRN 2009 / 005

**Subject:** The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys Classification of Interventions and Procedures (OPCS) version 4.5

**Reason for Change:** To align with the latest version of OPCS to be implemented in the UK.

**Implementation Date:** 1st April 2009

**Background:**

OPCS-4 is the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys Classification of Surgical Operations and Procedures (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.

OPCS-4 intervention codes are included in a number of national data sets.

OPCS 4.5 is the latest version of this intervention classification to be published by the NHS Classification Service of NHS Connecting for Health.

On 24th December the Information Standards Board published DSCN 30/2008 mandating OPCS 4.5 from 1st April 2009 in NHS England. This implementation timescale has been endorsed by the Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board for NHS Wales.

**Description of Change:**

To introduce the latest version of OPCS 4.

The following table summarises the number of changes from OPCS 4.4 by chapter.

Chapter	No. of New Codes	No. of Codes with Description Changes Only	No. of Codes Retired
A (Nervous System)	16	2	0
B (Endocrine System and Breast)	2	1	0
C (Eye)	None		
D (Ear)	1	0	0

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E (Respiratory Tract)	2	0	0
F (Mouth)	None		
G (Upper Digestive Tract)	1	0	0
H (Lower Digestive Tract)	1	0	0
J (Other Abdominal Organs)	0	4	0
K (Heart)	1	3	0
L (Arteries and Veins)	11	0	0
M (Urinary)	4	0	0
N (Male Genital Organs)	None		
P (Lower Female Genital Tract)	None		
Q (Upper Female genital Tract)	None		
R (Female Genital Tract associated with pregnancy, Child Birth, and Puerperium)	1	0	0
S (Skin)	None		
T (Soft Tissue)	4	0	0
U (Diagnostic Imaging, Testing and Rehabilitation)	5	0	0
V (Bones and Joints of Skull and Spine)	23	2	0
W (Other Bones and Joints)	95	6	0
X (Miscellaneous Operations)	27	2	2
Y (Subsidiary Classification if Methods of Operation)	8	4	0
Z (Subsidiary Classification of Sites of Operation)	7	0	0
Total	209	24	2

A detailed breakdown of the changes is available at: -

<http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/data/clinicalcoding/codingstandards/opcs4/opcs-4.5/summarychangeso.pdf>

### **Actions Required:**

Actions for Health Solutions Wales (HSW) : -

- Arrange the distribution of new OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures Version 4.5 (April 2009) Volume I - Tabular List and Volume II - Alphabetical Index to existing clinical coders.

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- Undertake any necessary updates to Reference Data tables to incorporate OPCS v4.5 and any other use of OPCS 4.
- Ensure OPCS 4.5 training materials are adopted across Wales.

### Actions for Trusts

- Their patient administration systems and encoding systems are upgraded to incorporate OPCS v4.5 by the date defined.
- Trusts using the READ coding system are responsible for ensuring that the mapping to OPCS incorporates the OPCS v4.5 classification
- Trusts are required to engage with their clinical and other relevant staff to raise awareness of the updated classification in order to maximise the benefits from its introduction.

### **Changes to be applied to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary:**

Table reflecting areas that are impacted as a result of this DSCN can be found in Appendix A.

Changes to be made to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary are highlighted in Appendix B.

Changes as they will appear in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary can be found in Appendix C.

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

The following table show all Data Items, Terms and associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

<b>Data Definition Type</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>New / Retired / Changed</b>
Data Item	Primary OPCS Procedure Code	Changed
Data Item	Secondary OPCS Procedure Code	Changed

## **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.

### **Primary OPCS Code**

(APC ds99/ OP mds)

The primary intervention / procedure performed on a patient at a particular time, during the relevant episode, as determined by the responsible Consultant or Independent Nurse.

Format: 4 character alpha-numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ANNN	See OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures, Fourth Revision (Version <del>4.4</del> ).
Spaces	No procedure performed or episode not coded.

### **Secondary OPCS Code**

(APC ds99/ OP mds)

The secondary intervention / procedure performed on a patient at a particular time. Up to 12 operative procedures per episode.

Format: 4 character alpha-numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ANNN	See OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures, Fourth Revision (Version <del>4.4</del> ).
Spaces	No procedure performed or episode not coded.

**Appendix C: Data Items and Term as they will appear in the Data Dictionary.**

**Primary OPCS Code**

(APC ds99/ OP mds)

The primary intervention / procedure performed on a patient at a particular time, during the relevant episode, as determined by the responsible Consultant or Independent Nurse.

Format: 4 character alpha-numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ANNN	See OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures, Fourth Revision (Version 4).
Spaces	No procedure performed or episode not coded.

**Secondary OPCS Code**

(APC ds99/ OP mds)

The secondary intervention / procedure performed on a patient at a particular time. Up to 12 operative procedures per episode.

Format: 4 character alpha-numeric

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ANNN	See OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures, Fourth Revision (Version 4).
Spaces	No procedure performed or episode not coded.

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### **Additional Information:**

*Please address enquiries about this DSCN to: -*

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