WELSH INFORMATION GOVERNANCE & STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2011 / 05
Date of Issue:	7th June 2011

Ministerial / Official Letter: None applicable	**Subject:** Healthcare Resource Groups (HRG) Version 3.5
Sponsor: Steve Elliot Head of Financial Planning and Management Directorate General of Health & Social Services Welsh Assembly Government	
Implementation Date: 1st April 2011	

DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE

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

This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board (WIGSB) at its meeting on Tuesday 24th May 2011.

WIGSB Reference: IGRN 2011 / 005

Summary:

The withdrawal of the requirement to submit HRG Version 3.5 groups in APC dataset.

Data sets / returns affected:

Admitted Patient Care Data Set

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

E-mail: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk   Tel: 02920502539/2540

The Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WIGSB 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 SET CHANGE NOTICE

Introduction

Healthcare Resource Groups (HRGs) were introduced to NHS Wales in April 2000. HRG version 3.5 has been in use since October 2003 in NHS Trusts, Powys Local Health Board and Health Solutions Wales (HSW). In England, HRG version 4 was introduced for Reference Costs from April 2006 and for National Tariff from April 2009.

In April 2009, WIGSB approved the use of HRG version 4 by HSW for the purpose of grouping Admitted Patient Care (APC) data. At that time Local Health Boards (LHBs) and Velindre NHS Trust were required to continue to submit HRG version 3.5 codes in the APC data set. There was, and still is, no mandate or capacity to include HRG 4 codes in the submitted APC data set.

England no longer supports the development of HRG 3.5. As a result there have not been any enhancements to the HRG 3.5 grouper for the last two years. Furthermore, although OPCS 4.5 and 4.6 have been developed to support greater granularity of HRG codes, this benefit is lost if classification codes are mapped back to OPCS 4.2 in order to be grouped to HRG 3.5.

HRG 3.5 is no longer required for financial costing purposes. A small consultation exercise has shown that no other national stakeholders require its use to be continued. As a consequence of this, there is no longer a requirement to submit HRG 3.5 codes in the APC data set.

Description of Change

The withdrawal of the requirement to submit HRG v3.5 groups in the APC data set.

Data Dictionary Version

This DSCN will be reflected in version 3.3 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Actions Required

<u>Actions for the NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS):</u>

1. For APC activity with an episode end date before 1st April 2011:

    -   Continue to check the validity of submitted HRG v3.5 codes via the Validation at Source Service (VASS)[1].

    -   Continue to populate ePEDW[2] and any other affected national reports with valid HRG 3.5 codes.

2. For APC activity with an episode end date after 1st April 2011:

    -   Decommission the data validity check and associated data validity performance indicator for HRG v3.5 codes in VASS and the monthly APC Data Validity Performance Monitoring Report.

    -   Discontinue the reporting of HRG 3.5 data validity performance in the monthly Clinical Coding Data Quality Report[3] for financial year 2011/12 activity onwards.

<u>Actions for LHBs / Trusts:</u>

1. For APC activity with an episode end date before 1st April 2011:

    -   LHBs / Trusts should ensure a valid HRG version 3.5 code is submitted within the APC episode in the APC data set.

2. For APC activity with an episode end date on or after 1st April 2011:

    -   LHBs / Trusts are no longer required to submit a valid HRG version 3.5 code. However, the submission of a valid code is permissible until further notice.

    -   If the LHB / Trust does not wish to submit a valid HRG version 3.5 code, the field should be populated with zeros ('000') or padded with spaces. No data quality monitoring will be undertaken on this field for activity on or after 1st April 2011.

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[1] http://nwdss.hsw.wales.nhs.uk/NwdssMerge/VASS/login.aspx?ap=APC
[2] http://eproducts.wales.nhs.uk/ePedw.aspx
[3] http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=527&pid=16077

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

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

Data Definition Type	Name	New / Retired / Changed
Data Items (A-Z)	Healthcare Resource Group (HRG)	Changed
Appendix F	Appendix F - HRGs	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.

Healthcare Resource Group (HRG)

Change History	
DSCN 2011/05	Healthcare Resource Groups (HRG) Version 3.5
DSCN (2007) 09 (W)	Update Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) Codes in NHS Wales Data Dictionary

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

Data Set / Collection	Valid From	Valid To
APC ds99	1st April 1999	31st March 2011

The Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) identified ~~for the provider spell~~.

Local Health Boards / Trusts are not required to submit a valid HRG version 3.5 code for activity with an episode end date on or after 1st April 2011.

Format: 3 digits alphanumeric

Value	Meaning	Valid From	Valid To
ANN	Healthcare Resource Group (A01-U09), defined by the NHS Information Authority Centre of Classification and Coding, version 3.	1st April 1999	31st March 2011
000 or padded with spaces	Not applicable – episode end date after 31st March 2011	1st April 2011	

See Appendix F – Healthcare Resource Group (HRGs)

Appendix F – Healthcare Resource Groups (HRGs)

Change History	
DSCN 2011/05	Healthcare Resource Groups (HRG) Version 3.5
DSCN 2009/10	Healthcare Resource Group 4
DSCN (2007) 09 (W)	Update Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) Codes in NHS Wales Data Dictionary

Healthcare Resource Groups (HRGs) are designed to be standard groupings of clinically similar treatments which use common levels of healthcare resource.

The purpose of HRGs is to offer organisations the ability to understand their activity in terms of the types of patients they care for and the treatments they undertake. They may be used to enable the comparison of activity within and between different organisations and provide an opportunity to benchmark treatments and services to support trend analysis over time.

HRG cCodes can be viewed through the following link:-

http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?OrgID=286
http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=286&pid=32107