

## WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

<b>DSC Notice:</b>	DSCN 2013 / 07
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2013

<b>Ministerial / Official Letter:</b> n/a	<b>Subject:</b> Mapping of 'Main Specialty (of Consultant)' and 'Treatment Function' codes for the 2011-12 HRG4 Reference Costs Grouper
<b>Sponsor:</b> n/a	
<b>Implementation Date:</b> n/a	

### 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 Standards Board (WISB) at its meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013

**WISB Reference:** IGRN 2008 / 021

#### Summary:

To update the mapping process that needs to take place in the derivation of HRG4 codes in NHS Wales, using the latest versions of the Reference Costs Grouper.

#### Data sets / returns affected:

Admitted Patient Care data set (APC ds)

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

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The Welsh Information Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WISB Outcomes can be found at:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=24632>

## DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE

### Introduction

A Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) is a grouping consisting of clinically similar treatments / patient events that have been judged to consume a similar level of healthcare resource. HRGs are derived by groupers, which are English NHS Health & Social Care Information Centre (NHS HSCIC) products, which use clinical coding (ICD-10 and OPCS-4) and administrative codes about patient events to derive the HRG.

There are two types of grouper currently maintained by the NHS HSCIC, the Local Payment Grouper and the Reference Costs Grouper. New versions of both of these types of groupers are released annually.

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 treatment 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.

HRGs were introduced to NHS Wales in April 2000 and there have since been multiple releases of different versions of the HRG, in line with the work of the NHS HSCIC in England to redesign fundamentally the structure of HRGs.

HRG version 3.5 was in use between October 2003 and 1st April 2011, and were submitted centrally by LHBs as a data item within the Admitted Patient Care data set (APC ds), whilst also being generated by the NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) as a cross check for data validation purposes.

In England, HRG version 4 (HRG4) was introduced from April 2006. In April 2009, the then Welsh Information Governance & Standards Board (WIGSB) approved the use of HRG4 for the grouping of centrally submitted Admitted Patient Care (APC) data by Health Solutions Wales (HSW), now part of NWIS. This was mandated through DSCN (2009) 10.

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 ds. However, this requirement was subsequently withdrawn from 1st April 2011 through DSCN 2011/05.

The HRG4 Local Payment Grouper software was implemented by NWIS in December 2009 with activity being grouped under HRG4 retrospectively to 1st April 2008. Subsequently, the 2011-12 version of the Reference Costs Grouper was implemented in April 2012. There was, and still is, no mandate or capacity to include HRG4 codes in the submitted APC ds, as all HRG4 grouping of nationally submitted APC ds is now undertaken by NWIS, who derive HRG4 codes as part of a monthly refresh of APC data.

### Mapping

The HRG4 Grouper works using definitions that have been agreed by NHS England. Certain data items within the APC ds have different permissible values from those within England. As a result, processing those data in accordance with English permissible values would generate invalid or unrecognised HRG4 codes. These un-groupable codes are mapped to equivalent existing English codes by NWIS during the exporting of data into the HRG4 grouper software. However, the submitted values of the APC data items that are held in existing national databases are not changed.

DSCN (2009) 10 specified the mappings that take place to convert English groupings to Welsh groupings, **whilst not changing the submitted values of the APC data items held in the existing national databases.** The DSCN gave mapping tables for 'Source of Admission', 'Admission Method' and 'Discharge Destination'. These mappings have been retained as part of the move to the generation of HRG4 codes using APC ds data.

The recent adoption of the 2011-12 version of the Reference Costs Grouper has meant that further mappings for specialties must now take place in order to generate valid HRG4 codes.

This is because the adoption of this version of the grouper has caused Welsh specialty codes to be rejected. Therefore, further mapping is now required for the data items 'Main Specialty (of Consultant)' and 'Treatment Function Code' of the submitted episode / spell, because these data items are now taken into account as part of the grouping process.

As a result, NWIS is now required to map all Welsh-specific specialty codes to a valid English Main Specialty code and/or Treatment Function Code, for the purposes of HRG4 grouping, **whilst not changing the submitted values of the APC data items held in the existing national databases.**

Although 'Main Specialty (of Consultant) and 'Treatment Function Code' are needed for the grouping process to work, they are only used in determining the additional 'unbundled' HRGs around specialist palliative care and paediatric and neonatal transportation. However, these are currently not used within Wales.

### Description of Change

To update the mapping process that needs to take place in the derivation of HRG4 codes in NHS Wales when using the Reference Costs Grouper, for activity from 2011/12 onwards.

The following tables set out the mapping that will be applied for the purposes of HRG4 grouping in Wales.

#### **Mapping of Wales-specific 'Main Specialty (of Consultant)' Codes**

The following Welsh Main Specialty codes should be mapped to **any** valid English Main Specialty code. The outcome of the HRG will not be affected by the English code that you choose to map to.

<b>Welsh Main Specialty Code</b>
191 Pain Management
510 Obstetrics – AN (outpatients)
520 Obstetrics – PN (outpatients)
610 GP Maternity
620 GP Other
832 Neuropathology
990 Joint Consultant Clinics

*Please note: This mapping is done solely for the purposes of HRG4 grouping only. **No changes are made to the submitted 'Main Specialty (of Consultant)' or 'Treatment Function Code' held in the existing national databases, and which are used for the reporting and publishing of Admitted Patient Care (APC) activity data.***

## Mapping of Wales-specific 'Treatment Function Codes'

The following Welsh Treatment Function codes should be mapped to **any** valid English Treatment Function code. The outcome of the HRG will not be affected by the English code that you choose to map to.

Welsh Treatment Function
312 Clinical Cytogenetics & Molecular Genetics
510 Obstetrics – AN (outpatients)
520 Obstetrics – PN (outpatients)
610 GP Maternity
620 GP Other
810 Radiology
820 General Pathology
821 Blood Transfusion
823 Haematology (non-clinical)
824 Histopathology
830 Immunopathology
831 Medical Microbiology
824 Histopathology
832 Neuropathology
900 Community Medicine
901 Occupational Medicine
950 Nursing
990 Joint Consultant Clinics

*Please note: This mapping is done solely for the purposes of HRG4 grouping only. **No changes are made to the submitted 'Main Specialty (of Consultant)' or 'Treatment Function Code' held in the existing national databases, and which are used for the reporting and publishing of Admitted Patient Care (APC) activity data.***

### Data Dictionary Version

Where applicable, this DSCN reflects changes introduced by DSCN and/or DDCN since the release of version 4.3 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

The changes introduced by such DSCNs will be published in version 4.4 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

## Actions Required

### NHS Wales Informatics Service:

- Introduce the necessary processes and infrastructure to support the use and publication of HRG4 codes for data users.
- Ensure all reports containing HRG4 data are caveated to reflect the mapping of Wales-specific codes to English codes.

### Local Health Boards / Trusts:

- If organisations wish to produce HRG4 data at a local level they should ensure that they map Wales-specific 'Main Specialty (of Consultant) and 'Treatment Function Codes' to valid English codes when grouping APC ds data in addition to the cross-mapping already required in relation to 'Source of Admission', 'Discharge Destination' and 'Admission Method'.

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

The following table shows all the data sets, data items, terms and other associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

Each data definition type is listed in alphabetical order and is shown in the sequence in which it appears in this DSCN.

*There are no areas of the Data Dictionary affected as a result of this DSCN*

## **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.

*There are no areas of the Data Dictionary affected as a result of this DSCN*