

25<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**VASS check 50605 amended**  
**'Inconsistent Referrer Code / Referring Organisation code' (APC)**

When it became apparent that LHBs were submitting a significant number of referrer codes in APC data corresponding to non-consultants (and therefore did not appear in the consultants Reference Data table e.g. nurses, optometrists), they were advised that the 'bucket' code R9999981 (Referrer other than above) should be used to identify this activity in the Referrer Code field.

As the referrer bucket code R9999981 (Referrer other than above) became more widely used, the 'Referrer Code vs. Referring Organisation code' consistency check was reviewed, and the check was changed to exclude the code from being checked.

Whereas code R9999981 as a referrer code in combination with a valid LHB code as a referring organisation code was previously flagged as inconsistent, after the amendment was made it was flagged as consistent.

Key stakeholders were informed of this change on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014