

Tuesday 24th June 2014

To: LHB Heads of Information Services
NHS Wales Critical Care Network Leads

CC: Director of Operations, Department of Health & Social Services, Welsh Government
Andrew Griffiths, Director – NHS Wales Informatics Service
Operational Services (Data Acquisition) Team, NHS Wales Informatics Service
Information Standards Team, NHS Wales Informatics Service

Dear Colleagues,

Critical Care Data Consistency Standards

This letter formally mandates the introduction of the Critical Care Data Set (CC Ds) Data Consistency Standards for NHS Wales.

Critical Care data are submitted monthly to the national database at the NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) by Local Health Boards (LHBs). These data are used to support the planning and management of healthcare services through the ongoing monitoring of demand for, and provision of, critical care services at both a local and national level.

In order to help address issues of data quality across Wales, a Data Quality Improvement Project was established through the Corporate Health Information Programme (CHIP) in March 2007, which had the overall objective of raising the profile of data quality and implementing a revised approach with a view to securing demonstrable improvements. This programme is now being taken forward by the Data Quality Team within the Information Services Division, NWIS.

Since April 2008, a set of data validity standards have been developed and implemented for Admitted Patient Care, Outpatient Activity, Outpatient Referrals and Emergency Department data sets. These were designed to check submitted data to ensure that they were being provided in the agreed format and, where applicable, that they were populated with a nationally-agreed value as defined in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary¹. A similar set of standards was introduced for Critical Care on 1st March 2014.

To further enhance these data quality checks, a set of data consistency standards are to be introduced for Critical Care data in July 2014, to be applied to 2013/14 activity data onwards. These will check submitted Critical Care data to ensure that *related* data items for the same patient are consistent with one another. In introducing the new Critical Care data consistency standards the logic underpinning existing checks was also reviewed and updated.

In developing the new indicators, NWIS consulted with NHS Wales organisations and a range of other stakeholders. These were widely accepted as a mechanism for improving the data quality of the data set. Performance against the data validity standards introduced in March 2014 has been monitored using the monthly Data Validity Performance Monitoring Reports since May 2014. Compliance with the new Data Consistency Standards will also be

¹ <http://www.datadictionary.wales.nhs.uk/>

measured using a similar Data Consistency Performance Monitoring Report. Targets for these measures will all be set at 98% in accordance with other data sets and relevant national (UK) standards.

Performance against the standards will be published on the NWIS Data Quality website, which can be accessed via the following link, from August 2014:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/dataquality> (Accessible to NHS Wales users only)

The full set of data load and validity checks are listed in [Appendix A](#).

To enable LHBs to monitor the data quality of their own submissions to the NHS Wales Data Switching Service (NWDSS), the new checks will be incorporated into the Validation At Source Service (VASS) on 1st July 2014 in time for the submission of June 2014 data, which is due by 11th July 2014.

Should you have any queries, please contact David Hawes, Information Standards Manager, NWIS on 029 2050 2571 or via email – david.hawes@wales.nhs.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Tim O'Sullivan
Head of Information
NHS Wales Informatics Service

CHANGES TO CRITICAL CARE VALIDATION AT SOURCE SERVICE CHECKS

The following tables list the new and existing data quality checks for Critical Care. Full descriptions and the underpinning SQL logic of each of these checks can be found on the VASS website:

<http://nwdss.hsw.wales.nhs.uk/NwdssMerge/VASS/> (Accessible to NHS Wales users only)

NEW VASS CHECKS

VASS #	VASS Check Description	Check Type	Required Changes in VASS
59134	Invalid Basic Cardiovascular Support Days	Data Validity Check	New checks to be added
59135	Invalid Advanced Cardiovascular Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59140	Inconsistent Date of Birth / Critical Care Start Date	Data Consistency Check	
59141	Inconsistent Date of Birth / Critical Care Discharge Date	Data Consistency Check	
59142	Inconsistent Date of Birth / Critical Care Discharge Ready Date	Data Consistency Check	
59143	Inconsistent Critical Care Start Date/Time / Critical Care Discharge Date/Time	Data Consistency Check	
59144	Inconsistent Critical Care Start Date / Time / Critical Care Discharge Ready Date/ Time	Data Consistency Check	
59145	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Ready Date/Time / Critical Care Discharge Date/Time	Data Consistency Check	
59146	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Location / Critical Care Discharge Status / Critical Care Discharge Destination	Data Consistency Check	
59147	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Advanced Respiratory Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59148	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Basic Respiratory Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59149	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Dermatological Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59150	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Gastro-Intestinal Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59151	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Liver Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59152	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Neurological Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59153	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Renal Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59154	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Advanced Cardiovascular Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59155	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Basic Cardiovascular Support Days	Data Consistency Check	
59156	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Critical Care Discharge Location	Data Consistency Check	
59157	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Critical Care Discharge Status	Data Consistency Check	
59158	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Critical Care Discharge Destination	Data Consistency Check	
59159	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Critical Care Level 2 Days	Data Consistency Check	
59160	Inconsistent Critical Care Discharge Date / Critical Care Level 3 Days	Data Consistency Check	

EXISTING VASS CHECKS

VASS #	VASS Check Description	Check Type	Required Changes in VASS
59000	Invalid Record ID	Data Load Check	No changes required
59001	Invalid Organisation Code (Code of Provider)	Data Load Check	
59002	Invalid Case Record Number	Data Load Check	
59003	Invalid Critical Care Local Identifier	Data Load Check	
59004	Invalid Critical Care Start Date	Data Load Check	
59005	Duplicate Record	Data Load Check	
59006	No Record to Amend	Data Load Check	
59007	Record Being Deleted does not Exist	Data Load Check	
59010	Organisation Code Not Active	Data Load Check	
59090	More than one Bulk Delete Header Record	Data Load Check	
59091	Invalid Start Date in Bulk Delete Header Record	Data Load Check	
59092	Invalid End Date in Bulk Delete Header Record	Data Load Check	
59093	End Date before Start Date in Bulk Delete Header Record	Data Load Check	
59094	Invalid Account Code in Bulk Delete Header Record	Data Load Check	
59095	Bulk Delete Header Record not first record	Data Load Check	
59100	Invalid NHS Number	Data Validity Check	
59101	Invalid or Inactive Postcode of Usual Address	Data Validity Check	
59102	Invalid Sex Code	Data Validity Check	
59103	Invalid Site Code (of Treatment)	Data Validity Check	
59104	Invalid Treatment Function Code	Data Validity Check	
59105	Invalid Critical Care Admission Source	Data Validity Check	
59106	Invalid Critical Care Source Location	Data Validity Check	
59107	Invalid Critical Care Admission Type	Data Validity Check	
59108	Invalid / Inactive Code of Registered GP Practice	Data Validity Check	
59109	Invalid Hospital Provider Spell Number	Data Validity Check	
59110	Invalid Critical Care Unit Function	Data Validity Check	
59111	Invalid Unit Bed Configuration	Data Validity Check	
59112	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Date	Data Validity Check	
59113	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Ready Date	Data Validity Check	
59114	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Status	Data Validity Check	
59115	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Destination	Data Validity Check	
59116	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Location	Data Validity Check	
59117	Invalid Critical Care Level 2 Days	Data Validity Check	
59118	Invalid Critical Care Level 3 Days	Data Validity Check	
59120	Invalid Date of Birth	Data Validity Check	
59121	Invalid Administrative Category	Data Validity Check	
59122	Invalid Advanced Respiratory Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59123	Invalid Basic Respiratory Support Days	Data Validity Check	

VASS #	VASS Check Description	Check Type	Required Changes in VASS
59124	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Ready Time	Data Validity Check	
59125	Invalid Critical Care Discharge Time	Data Validity Check	
59126	Invalid Critical Care Start Time	Data Validity Check	
59127	Invalid Dermatological Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59128	Invalid Ethnic Group	Data Validity Check	
59129	Invalid Gastro-Intestinal Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59130	Invalid Liver Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59131	Invalid Neurological Support Days	Data Validity Check	
59132	Invalid Organ Support Maximum	Data Validity Check	
59133	Invalid Renal Support Days	Data Validity Check	