

IRSS Information Requirements and Standards Sub Committee	Subject: Data Standards: Updated Ambulance definitions
	Implementation date: Immediate

DATA SET CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

This paper gives notification of changes to be included in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Summary of change:

Changes to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary for Ambulance definitions.

Change Proposal
Reference No: IRSS/06/02

The Information Requirements and Standards Sub Committee (IRSS), is responsible for approving information standards.

Please address enquiry's about this DSCN to the Data Standards and Information Quality Team, HSW, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF24 0HA Tel: 029 20503292 or E-mail Datastandards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk

Data Set Change Notices are available via the Intranet Service HOWIS <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/> or by contacting the above address.

DSCN numbering format = sequence number/year of issue, (W) for Welsh DSCN's.

DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE 06/2002(W)

Reference: IRSS/06/02

Subject: Changes to Ambulance Definitions

Type of Change: Changes to NHS Wales Data Definitions

Reason for Change: To come in line with definitions included in Central Return KA34

Effective Date: The changes will be applied in Version 2.4 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary

Background: Central Return KA34 was revamped and issued to the service in April 1999. The Ambulance definitions within the NHS Wales Data Dictionary Version 2.3 need to be updated in order to be in line with the definitions within Central Return KA34.

Summary of Changes: Data definitions have been changed to come in line with definitions in Central Return KA34.

Terms

Patient Journey	Update description
Ambulance Service	Update description
Emergency Call	Update description
<u>NHS Wales Indicators</u>	
Emergency ambulance response times	Update reference to section in Central Return KA34

CHANGES

Change type: Update description

PATIENT JOURNEY

A patient journey is a single trip to, or return from a place where the patient receives medical care or treatment, for one patient. If 1 ambulance carries 3 patients this counts as 3 patient journeys.

- a) **Emergency/Call/Journey:** Emergency calls classified as immediately life threatening (Category A) generally made in response to a 999 call, or classified by a doctor as requiring an immediate response. ~~A fully equipped emergency vehicle and trained crew of two~~ An approved first responder must be deployed immediately to give initial treatment before taking patients to hospital even if other work is delayed. An approved first responder could be an ambulance but could also be a paramedic on a bike, a local GP or another suitably trained individual. If not an ambulance then a follow up ambulance is expected to arrive within the 'Category B' timescales.

Includes:

To remain the same

- b) **Urgent journey:** All other emergency calls (Category B) that are not classified as life threatening, where an ambulance/transportation is ordered for patients by a clinician ...remaining description is unchanged.

b) **Urgent journey: cont'd**

Includes:

To remain the same

Exclude:

- i.) Urgent transfer requests which after interrogation are treated as emergency calls with the agreement of the caller.

Change type: Update description

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is classified according to population density:

- a) **Urban:** more than 7 persons per hectare; more than 3 persons per acre
- b) **Rural:** between 1 and 7 persons per hectare; between 0.5 and 3 persons per acre
- c) **Sparsely populated:** less than 1 person per hectare; less than 0.5 persons per acre

Performance is measured by response times, for which a target is set for each service category in terms of percentile time values.

Response time: the time from receipt of an emergency call to the time of arrival of a vehicle (with 2-man fully trained crew) at the place where the patient is. A response within 8 minutes means eight minutes zero seconds or less. A similar definition should be used for 14/18 and 21 minutes.

Percentile time values: ~~The time within which the specified percentage of events occurred e.g. a 95th percentile response time of 15/5 minutes indicates that in 95% of calls the ambulance arrived in 15.5 minutes or less.~~

The service classifications of the ambulance service and their respective standard response times are as follows:

Emergency calls:

Category A - 'Immediately life-threatening'

Category B - 'All other Emergency calls'

Service classification	Standard response times (minutes) <u>for Category A</u>	Standard response time (minutes) <u>for Category B</u>
Urban	7 8	14
Rural	8	18
Sparsely populated	8	21

Change type: Update description

EMERGENCY CALL

A notification of the need for immediate transport of a person or persons injured in an accident or taken ill suddenly.

See Patient Journey

For KA34,

If there have been multiple calls in respect of a single to an incident should be all calls should be recorded as a single unless the return states otherwise.

Change type: Update reference to section in Central Return Form KA34

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES

Changes to Base Data section..

- Base Data**
1. The number of emergency calls resulting in an ambulance arriving at the scene of the incident within 14/18/21 minutes (KA34 part 1 line ~~4~~ 10)
 2. The number of emergency calls resulting in an ambulance arriving at the scene of the incident (KA34 part 1 line ~~2~~ 9)
-

Overview

The Welsh Assembly Government require summary details from the Welsh Ambulance NHS Trust on ambulance activity. The KA34 return is collected quarterly to monitor the performance of the Ambulance Trust, including targets set out in the NHS Plan for Wales.

A statistical release is prepared on a quarterly basis and sent to the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust. The latest release, along with some additional tables, can be found under 'Health and Care' on the National Assembly for Wales web pages:

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/index.htm>

Additional Information:

For further information please contact:

Mrs Deirdre Leigh,
Health Statistics and Analysis Unit
Welsh Assembly Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Tel: 029 20825036

Fax: 029 20825335

E-mail deidre.leigh@wales.gsi.gov.uk

For Data Standards queries please contact:

Mrs Alison Jenkins
Information Analyst
Data Standards and Information Quality Team
HSW, 14th floor, Brunel House
Cardiff
CF24 0HA

Tel: 029 20502463

Fax: 029 20502504

E-mail Data.Standards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk