

**DSC Notice: 19/04(W)**  
**English DSCN Equivalent: None**  
**Date of Issue: October 2004**

<b>IRSS</b> <b>Information Requirements and</b> <b>Standards Sub Committee</b>	<b>Subject:</b> To amend the All Wales Data Dictionary entry for the term Audiology under 'Diagnostic & Therapies Waiting Times'
	<b>Implementation date:</b> Immediately

### DATA SET CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

**Summary of change:**

To clarify the definition of the waiting times measures for the fitting of a hearing aid.

The change will be included in Version 2.5 of the All Wales Data Dictionary.

This was originally raised and approved under Request Change Notification (07)04.

<b>Change Proposal Reference No:</b> <b>IRSS 20040924/02/OCC</b>
---

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 20502539 or E-mail [Data.Standards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Data.Standards@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 17/04(W)

**Reference:** IRSS 20040924/02/OCC

**Subject:** To amend the All Wales Data Dictionary entry for the term Audiology under 'Diagnostic & Therapies Waiting Times '

**Effective Date:** September 2004

**Reason of Change:** Version 2.4 of the Data Dictionary is not clear in defining the waiting times measures for the fitting of a hearing aid.

### Background:

The definition for the removal from the waiting list for the Audiology Service of the Diagnostics and Therapy Service Waiting Times does not state the exact event. Consequently, removal from the waiting list is open to interpretation. Version 2.4 of the Data Dictionary states under 'Audiology' that patients are removed from the waiting list on the day their hearing aid is fitted. Some Audiology clinics regard the end of the wait period as being when the patient has received the final fitting (which could be some time after the first fitting).

As a result of queries received, DSIQ have proposed a change to the text that is currently under the 'Audiology' heading. It should read Patients are removed from the waiting list on the day they are fitted **with the first issue of a hearing aid**. All to be reported by referral from consultant or GP'.

### Impact in Wales:

Version 2.5 of the Dictionary will contain the explanatory text and should reduce confusion at the Trusts and reduce the number of query calls to IPU.

The proposed change to the Dictionary should provide the basis for helping to reduce waiting times for some Audiology treatments.

### Changes To The NHS Wales Data Dictionary:

Appendix A shows the current data dictionary (version 2.4) entry.

Appendix B shows the proposed replacement entry for dissemination to the NHS Wales information community via this Dataset Change Notice (DSCN) and inclusion in the Data Dictionary version 2.5 (or later).

**Contact:**

*Please address enquiries about this DSCN to: -*

*Data Standards and Information Quality Team  
Health Solutions Wales  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor - Brunel House  
2 Fitzalan Road  
Cardiff  
CF24 0HA*

*Tel: 029 20502539  
Fax: 029 20502504*

*E-mail: [Datastandards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Datastandards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk)*

## **Appendix A: Current Dictionary Entry**

Under Data Items (A-Z):-

### **Service Sub Heading**

(DT Waiting Times)

Sub divisions of the specified services used for the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times of Diagnostic and Therapy Services.

See [Service Heading](#)

<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Sub Heading</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Removed from Waiting List</b>
Radiology	Barium Enema C.T. M.R. Non-Obstetric Ultrasound Nuclear Medicine		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date of the diagnostic test, for which they are waiting, is carried out.  All to be reported by referral from consultant or GP.
Cardiology Cardiology	Stress Test Echo Cardiogram	A non-invasive procedure to record the heart's electrical activity.  A non-invasive ultrasound procedure used to diagnose cardiovascular disease.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date of the diagnostic test, for which they have been referred, is carried out.
Audiology	Adult Hearing Aids	An externally worn electronic listening device.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the day their hearing aid is fitted. All to be reported by referral from consultant or

			GP.
Speech & Language Therapy	Adults Paediatrics/Adolescents Learning Disabilities Mental Health	Paediatrics/Adolescents are defined as under 18 years of age. Adults are defined as 18 years of age and over.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services)
Arts Therapies	Learning Disabilities Mental Health		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services)
Podiatry	Urgent Soon Routine		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic

## **Appendix B: Proposed Change**

Under Data Items (A-Z):-

### **Service Sub Heading**

(DT Waiting Times)

Sub divisions of the specified services used for the Monthly Collection of Waiting Times of Diagnostic and Therapy Services.

See [Service Heading](#)

<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Sub Heading</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Removed from Waiting List</b>
Radiology	Barium Enema C.T. M.R. Non-Obstetric Ultrasound Nuclear Medicine		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date of the diagnostic test, for which they are waiting, is carried out.  All to be reported by referral from consultant or GP.
Cardiology Cardiology	Stress Test Echo Cardiogram	A non-invasive procedure to record the heart's electrical activity.  A non-invasive ultrasound procedure used to diagnose cardiovascular disease.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the date of the diagnostic test, for which they have been referred, is carried out.

Audiology	Adult Hearing Aids	An externally worn electronic listening device.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the day they are fitted <b><u>with the first issue of a hearing aid.</u></b> All to be reported by referral from consultant or GP.
-----------	--------------------	---	---

Speech & Language Therapy	Adults Paediatrics/Adolescents Learning Disabilities Mental Health	Paediatrics/Adolescents are defined as under 18 years of age. Adults are defined as 18 years of age and over.	Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services)
Arts Therapies	Learning Disabilities Mental Health		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic and Therapy Services)
Podiatry	Urgent Soon Routine		Patients are removed from the waiting list on the Date of Commencement of Episode of Care (Diagnostic