

**DSC Notice: DSCN (2009) 01 (W)**  
**English DSCN Equivalent:**  
**Ministerial Letter: To Follow**  
**Date of Issue: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

<p><b>WIGSB</b>  <b>Welsh Information Governance</b>  <b>and Standards Board</b></p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Introduction of the Cardiac Referral to Treatment Data Collection to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary including Amendment to Existing Weeks Wait Time Band Structure.</p>
	<p><b>Implementation date:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009</p>

**Summary of change:**

The DSCN details the reporting structure for the Cardiac Referral to Treatment Data Collection which will be included in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary. The DSCN also informs the service of the changes to the 'Weeks Wait' time bands.

These changes will be applied in version 2.21 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

**WIGSB Reference No:**  
**IGRN2008/015**

Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board (WIGSB), is responsible for approving information standards.

*Please address enquiries about Data Set change proposals to the Data Standards and Data 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/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=299> or by contacting the above address.*

**Draft DSCN numbering format** = (year of draft) 2-character alpha (W).

Upon receiving approval for the change by WIGSB, the draft DSCN number will be reformatted to:

**DSCN number format** = (year of issue) 2-character numeric (W)

In addition,

**WIGSB Reference No. format** = WIGSB Submission Reference

## DSCN Distribution List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Carol Davies	Data Services Co-ordinator	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Helen Thomas	Acting Assistant Director of Information	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Gareth Lee	Head of Information Services	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
Deborah Usher	Information Manager	Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
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Trevor Hughes	Regional Information Manager	Business Services Centre
Tim O'Sullivan	Regional Information Manager	Business Services Centre
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Kerry Ashmore	Information Modernisation & Development Manager	Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
Steven Thomson	Information Manager	Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
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Graham Crooks	Information Manager	Cwm Taf NHS Trust
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Richard Noyce	Senior Information Analyst	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Mark Bouchier	Head of IM&T	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Nia Jones	Waiting List Co-ordinator	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Michelle Campbell	Corporate Information Manager	Hywel Dda NHS Trust
Richard Walker	Acting Head of IM&T	North Wales NHS Trust (Central)
Peter Burcham	Senior Information Analyst	North Wales NHS Trust (Central)
Christine Fisher	Head of Information	North Wales NHS Trust (East)
Janet Holmes	Information Analyst Community & Mental Health	North Wales NHS Trust (East)
Jeff Pye	Head of IM&T	North West Wales NHS Trust
Vaughan Hughes	Information Manager	North West Wales NHS Trust
Lynda James	Head of Information	Powys LHB
Mike Jones	Operational	Powys LHB
Tracey Jones	Information Services Manager	Powys LHB
Dave Morrey	Information Manager	Velindre NHS Trust
David Howells	Senior Analyst Programmer	Velindre NHS Trust
Sally Greenway	Head of Information Standards	Welsh Assembly Government
David Hawes	Corporate Health Information Programme	Welsh Assembly Government
Anthony Tracey	Corporate Health Information Programme	Welsh Assembly Government
Catherine Bridges	Information Services Division, Information Analysis	Welsh Assembly Government
Martyn Rees	Department of Health and Social Services	Welsh Assembly Government
Pam Hall	Corporate Health Information Programme	Welsh Assembly Government
Sue Leake	Health Statistics & Analysis Unit	Welsh Assembly Government

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<b>Denise Roberts</b>	<b>Financial Information Service</b>	<b>Welsh Assembly Government</b>
<b>Shelagh Reynolds</b>	<b>General Manager</b>	<b>Welsh Cancer Intelligence &amp; Surveillance Unit</b>
<b>Gareth John</b>	<b>Head of Information Products Unit</b>	<b>Health Solutions Wales</b>
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<b>Ken Leake</b>	<b>Technical Services Manager</b>	<b>Health Solutions Wales</b>
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## Data Set Change Notice

### Document Control

<b>Version:</b>	<b>Changed on:</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Details:</b>
0.01	20/08/2008	Rebecca Wells	Initial draft for review at DSCN sub-group 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2008.
0.02	25/09/2008	Rebecca Wells	DSCN updated following August DSCN sub-group.
0.03	06/11/2008	Rebecca Wells	DSCN updated following September DSCN sub-group and further discussions with HSA.
0.04	27/11/2008	Rebecca Wells	Updated following consultation with the Service.
1.0	11/02/2008	Rebecca Wells	DSCN Approved by WIGSB December 2008.

**DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE (2009) 01 (W)**

**WIGSB Reference:** IGRN 2008 / 003

**Subject:** Introduction of the Cardiac Referral to Treatment Data Collection to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary Including Amendment to Existing Time Band Structure.

**Reason for Change:** To align the weeks wait time bands with the main Referral to Treatment Data Collection and to enable measurement against the December 2009 Target of 26 Weeks.

**Implementation Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009

**Background:**

The purpose of this DSCN is to inform the service of the reporting format for the Cardiac Referral to Treatment Data Collection and to inform of the necessary changes to the Weeks Wait time bands.

WHC (2006)078 set out requirements for Trusts to supply information on Cardiac Total Waiting Times in order to monitor a series of Annual Operating Framework targets. The business rules set out in this WHC have not changed. The most recent target, due to be met by the end of March 2009, is:

- All patients referred by a GP or other medical practitioner to adult secondary or tertiary cardiology will receive definitive treatment within 32 weeks of receipt of the original referral by the receiving Trust.

This target has reduced from 72 weeks over the last two years. *Designed for Life* (published in 2005) made a commitment to reduce all total waiting times to a maximum of 26 weeks by December 2009

Currently, Cardiac Data is collected in four week bands, e.g. 0-4, 5-8, 9-12, etc. This means that 26 weeks cannot be measured – only 24 or 28. As a result of this, the Weeks Wait field has now been amended to collect individual week bands rather than grouped.

The change to the weekly time bands also means that the data collection is now in line with all other waiting times data collections.

**Actions Required:**

1. Trusts are required to submit their Cardiac RTT Data to the Business Service Centre no later than 20 days after the end of the reporting period.
2. Trusts are required to adhere to the reporting format as outlined in this DSCN.

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## Data Set Change Notice

### **Changes to be applied to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary:**

Table reflecting areas that are impacted as a result of this DSCN can be found in Appendix A.

Changes to be made to the NHS Wales Data Dictionary are highlighted in Appendix B.

Changes as they will appear in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary can be found in Appendix C.

## Data Set Change Notice

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

The following table show all Data Items, Terms and associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

<b>Data Definition Type</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>New / Retired / Changed</b>
Data Items & Terms Grouped by Data Set	Cardiac Referral to Treatment Data Collection	New
Data Item	Return Date	Changed
Data Item	Local Health Board	Changed
Data Item	Count	Changed
Data Item	Data Reference	Changed
Data Item	Weeks Wait	Changed

## Data Set Change Notice

### **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.

#### **a) Data Items and Terms Grouped by Data Set**

Admitted Patient Care Minimum Data Set (APC Mds)

Outpatient Minimum Data Set

Outpatient Referral Data Set

Elective Admission List Minimum Data Set (EAL Mds)

Critical Care Minimum Data Set

Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times

Referral to Treatment (RTT) Times

**Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times**

Inpatient and Daycase Admissions and First Outpatient Appointments Waiting Times (PP01W)

#### **Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times – Details of Return**

The Business Service Centres will provide data sets to Health Statistics & Analysis Unit, WAG by the last working day of the month after the reporting period. To enable the BSC to meet this timetable, Trusts should submit data to the BSC local office no later than 20 days after the end of the reporting period.

##### Return Details for Trusts:

All files should be sent in the form of a comma separated text file (csv format) to the BSC by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month and e-mailed to:

Files should be named as: CRTTxxxmmmyy.csv

Where:

xxx = the Trust Code

mmm = first three letters of the month to which the data relates

yy = last two digits of the year

##### Return Details for the Business Service Centres:

All files should be sent in the form of a comma separated text file (csv format) to HSA by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month and e-mailed to: [stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

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Files should be named as: CRTTxxmmyy.csv

Where:

xx = the last two numbers of the BSC code

mmm = first three letters of the month to which the data relates

yy = last two digits of the year

The returns will have the following format: -

Field Order	Format
Data Reference	2 alpha characters
Return Date	ccyymmdd
Local Health Board (LHB)	3 alpha numeric characters
Trust Code	3 alpha numeric characters
Referring Organisation Code	3 alpha-numeric characters
Weeks Wait	Alpha Numeric
Count	Numeric

\* If the count is zero for a month wait time band, a row for that weeks wait's data need not be submitted.

The number of patients waiting each number of weeks is entered in the 'count' field.

### b) Changes to Existing Data Items

The following data items have been amended solely to identify their inclusion in the Cardiac RTT Return:

#### **Return Date**

(DT Waiting Times/ RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

#### **Local Health Board**

(APC ds99/EAL mds/OP mds/ RTT/ PP01W/ OPR ds/ CRTT)

#### **Count**

(DT Waiting Times/ RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

#### **Referring Organisation Code**

(APC ds99/ EAL mds/ OP mds/ OPR ds/ CRTT)

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#### **Data Reference**

(DT Waiting Times/RTT/ PP01W)

This defines the record type within a return.

Must be one of the following:-

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## Data Set Change Notice

### For Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times: -

Value	Return Type
IE	Inpatient Diagnostic Endoscopy
DE	Day Case Diagnostic Endoscopy
OE	Outpatient Diagnostic Endoscopy
DT	For all other specified Diagnostic and Therapy Services

### For Referral to Treatment Times: -

Value	Return Type
PO	Open Pathway
CA	Closed Pathway Due to Admission
CO	Closed Pathway Due to Other Clock Stop Point

### For PP01W:-

Value	Return Type
IP	Inpatient Admission
DC	Day Case Admission
OP	First Outpatient Appointment

### For Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times:-

Value	Return Type
OP	Open Pathway
CP	Closed Pathway

Format: 2 character alpha

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## Weeks Wait

### (DT Waiting Times/RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

The time bands for reporting the waiting time counts, some values of which vary between returns developed for different purposes.

### The principle for recording the time band for a weeks wait is shown below: -

For reporting purposes a weeks wait is a value of x and refers to "Over x weeks and up to x+1 weeks". The calculation from days to weeks wait reported is Integer value of (days-1)/7 or zero, whichever is greater.

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## Data Set Change Notice

For example, to calculate the weeks wait for 277 days; use the calculation  $(\text{days}-1)/7$ : -  $(277-1)/7 = 39.428$  (equivalent to 39 weeks and 4 days). This will be recorded under the 'Over 39 weeks and up to 40 weeks (Day 274 – 280)' Time Band.

The definition for 999 is different within the RTT and PP01W collections. In the PPO1W it refers to suspensions and in RTT it refers to patients with unknown RTT start clock date. The correct definition must be applied to the relevant return.

### **Diagnostic and Therapy Waiting Times & PP01W: -**

The count of waiting time will start from the waiting list date and end on the census date, which is the last day of each month.

The waiting times will be reported grouped within time bands described in weeks up to 40 weeks wait. All waits beyond that will be reported in one group.

<b>Weeks Wait</b>	<b>Time Band</b>
0	Up to 1 week (up to and including 7 days)
1	Over 1 week and up to 2 weeks (day 8 to 14)
2	Over 2 weeks and up to 3 weeks (day 15 to 21)
Etc until	
39	Over 39 weeks and up to 40 weeks (day 274 to 280)
40	Over 40 weeks (day 281 and over)
999	Suspensions (for PP01W submissions only)

### **Referral to Treatment Times: -**

For open pathways, the length of referral to treatment time will be from the clock start date to the end of the census date, which is the last day of the month.

For closed pathways, the length of referral to treatment time will be from the clock start date to the clock stop date, which is within the reporting period.

The referral to treatment times will be reported grouped in time bands described in weeks up to 40 weeks. Over that, reporting will be in 4-week time bands up to a specified 105 weeks wait. Waits beyond that will be reported in one group. Where a trust is unable to identify a start clock dates for patients, these will be reported using a Weeks Wait value of '999'.

<b>Weeks Wait</b>	<b>Time Band</b>
0	Up to 1 week (up to and including 7 days)
1	Over 1 week and up to 2 weeks (day 8 to 14)
2	Over 2 weeks and up to 3 weeks (day 15 to 21)
Etc until	
39	Over 39 weeks and up to 40 weeks (day 274 to 280)
40	Over 40 weeks and up to 41 weeks (day 281 to 287)
41 - 44	Over 41 weeks and up to 45 weeks (day 288 to 315)
45 - 48	Over 45 weeks and up to 49 weeks (day 316 to 343)

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49 - 52	Over 49 weeks and up to 53 weeks (day 344 to 371)
Etc up to	
101 - 104	Over 101 weeks and up to 105 weeks (day 708 to day 735)
105	Over 105 weeks (day 736 and over)
999	Patient with unknown RTT start clock date

See WHC (2006) 081 'Delivering a 26 week Patient Pathway' for definitions of 'waiting list date'.

### **Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times:-**

Time waiting is the difference in between the return date and the waiting list date.

<b>Weeks Wait</b>	<b>Time Band</b>
0	Up to 1 week (up to and including 7 days)
1	Over 1 week and up to 2 weeks (day 8 to 14)
2	Over 2 weeks and up to 3 weeks (day 15 to 21)
Etc until	
39	Over 39 weeks and up to 40 weeks (day 274 to 280)
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49 - 52	Over 49 weeks and up to 53 weeks (day 344 to 371)
Etc up to	
101 - 104	Over 101 weeks and up to 105 weeks (day 708 to day 735)
105	Over 105 weeks (day 736 and over)
999	Patient with unknown RTT start clock date

For open pathways, the length of the pathway is measured from the date of referral to the date of the return date (end of the month). An open pathway is recorded where a patient falls within the scope of the target who has not yet reached a stop clock point at the end of the month.

For closed pathways, the length of the pathway is measured from the date of referral to the date of the stop clock point. A closed pathway is recorded where a patient who falls within the scope of the target has reached a stop clock point within the month.

## Data Set Change Notice

### **Appendix C: Data Items and Term as they will appear in the Data Dictionary.**

Admitted Patient Care Minimum Data Set (APC Mds)

Outpatient Minimum Data Set

Outpatient Referral Data Set

Elective Admission List Minimum Data Set (EAL Mds)

Critical Care Minimum Data Set

Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times

Referral to Treatment (RTT) Times

Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times

Inpatient and Daycase Admissions and First Outpatient Appointments Waiting Times (PP01W)

### **Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times – Details of Return**

The Business Service Centres will provide data sets to Health Statistics & Analysis Unit, WAG by the last working day of the month after the reporting period. To enable the BSC to meet this timetable, Trusts should submit data to the BSC local office no later than 20 days after the end of the reporting period.

#### Return Details for Trusts:

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Files should be named as: CRTTxxxmmmyy.csv

Where:

xxx = the Trust Code

mmm = first three letters of the month to which the data relates

yy = last two digits of the year

#### Return Details for the Business Service Centres:

All files should be sent in the form of a comma separated text file (csv format) to HSA by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month and e-mailed to: [stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats.health@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

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The returns will have the following format: -

<b>Field Order</b>	<b>Format</b>
Data Reference	2 alpha characters
Return Date	ccyymmdd
Local Health Board (LHB)	3 alpha numeric characters
Trust Code	3 alpha numeric characters
Referring Organisation Code	3 alpha-numeric characters
Weeks Wait	Alpha Numeric
Count	Numeric

\* If the count is zero for a month wait time band, a row for that weeks wait's data need not be submitted.

The number of patients waiting each number of weeks is entered in the 'count' field.

### c) Changes to Existing Data Items

The following data items have been amended solely to identify their inclusion in the Cardiac RTT Return:

#### **Return Date**

(DT Waiting Times/ RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

#### **Local Health Board**

(APC ds99/EAL mds/OP mds/ RTT/ PP01W/ OPR ds/ CRTT)

#### **Count**

(DT Waiting Times/ RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

#### **Referring Organisation Code**

(APC ds99/ EAL mds/ OP mds/ OPR ds/ CRTT)

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### **Data Reference**

(DT Waiting Times/RTT/ PP01W)

This defines the record type within a return.

Must be one of the following:-

#### **For Diagnostic and Therapy Services Waiting Times: -**

<b>Value</b>	<b>Return Type</b>
IE	Inpatient Diagnostic Endoscopy
DE	Day Case Diagnostic Endoscopy

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OE	Outpatient Diagnostic Endoscopy
DT	For all other specified Diagnostic and Therapy Services

### For Referral to Treatment Times: -

Value	Return Type
PO	Open Pathway
CA	Closed Pathway Due to Admission
CO	Closed Pathway Due to Other Clock Stop Point

### For PP01W:-

Value	Return Type
IP	Inpatient Admission
DC	Day Case Admission
OP	First Outpatient Appointment

### For Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times:-

Value	Return Type
OP	Open Pathway
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Format: 2 character alpha

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## Weeks Wait

### (DT Waiting Times/RTT/ PP01W/ CRTT)

The time bands for reporting the waiting time counts, some values of which vary between returns developed for different purposes.

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For reporting purposes a weeks wait is a value of x and refers to "Over x weeks and up to x+1 weeks". The calculation from days to weeks wait reported is Integer value of  $(\text{days}-1)/7$  or zero, whichever is greater.

For example, to calculate the weeks wait for 277 days; use the calculation  $(\text{days}-1)/7$ : -  $(277-1)/7 = 39.428$  (equivalent to 39 weeks and 4 days). This will be recorded under the 'Over 39 weeks and up to 40 weeks (Day 274 – 280)' Time Band.

The definition for 999 is different within the RTT and PP01W collections. In the PPO1W it refers to suspensions and in RTT it refers to patients with unknown RTT start clock date. The correct definition must be applied to the relevant return.

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40	Over 40 weeks (day 281 and over)
999	Suspensions (for PP01W submissions only)

### **Referral to Treatment Times: -**

For open pathways, the length of referral to treatment time will be from the clock start date to the end of the census date, which is the last day of the month.

For closed pathways, the length of referral to treatment time will be from the clock start date to the clock stop date, which is within the reporting period.

The referral to treatment times will be reported grouped in time bands described in weeks up to 40 weeks. Over that, reporting will be in 4-week time bands up to a specified 105 weeks wait. Waits beyond that will be reported in one group. Where a trust is unable to identify a start clock dates for patients, these will be reported using a Weeks Wait value of '999'.

<b>Weeks Wait</b>	<b>Time Band</b>
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49 - 52	Over 49 weeks and up to 53 weeks (day 344 to 371)
Etc up to	
101 - 104	Over 101 weeks and up to 105 weeks (day 708 to day 735)
105	Over 105 weeks (day 736 and over)



## Data Set Change Notice

999 Patient with unknown RTT start clock date

See WHC (2006) 081 'Delivering a 26 week Patient Pathway' for definitions of 'waiting list date'.

### **Cardiac Referral to Treatment Times:-**

Time waiting is the difference in between the return date and the waiting list date.

<b>Weeks Wait</b>	<b>Time Band</b>
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### **Additional Information:**

*Please address enquiries about this DSCN to: -*

*Data Standards and Data 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)*