

WELSH INFORMATION GOVERNANCE & STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2010 / 08
Date of Issue:	16 th July 2010

Ministerial / Official Letter: ML/EH/010/08	Subject: Outpatient Referrals Data Set
Sponsor: Director of Operations Health & Social Services Directorate General Welsh Assembly Government <i>(on behalf of the 2009 Access Board)</i>	
Implementation Date: 1 st September 2010	

DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE

A Data Set Change Notice (DSCN) is an information mandate for a new or revised information standard.

This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board (WIGSB) at its meeting on the 15th July 2010

WIGSB Reference: IGRN 2008 / 005

Summary:

This DSCN outlines the change to the unique key identifier for the Outpatient Referrals (OPR) Data Set (DS).

Data Sets / Returns Affected:

Outpatient Referrals Data Set (OPR DS)

Please address enquiries about this Data Set Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in Health Solutions Wales - email: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk / Tel: 02920502539

The Welsh Information Governance and Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WIGSB Outcomes relating to the approval of this standard can be found at: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=742&pid=24632>

DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE

Introduction

A range of data validity standards have been developed for the Outpatient Referrals Data Set (OPR DS). These were mandated via Official Letter (PMW/THOMAS/BS/OPR) effective from 1st April 2010. During the development work associated with their implementation, a problem with the unique key used to identify individual OPR records was identified whereby it was possible for one organisation to unintentionally overwrite the record of another organisation if they utilised an identical 'Referral Identifier' code.

In order to uniquely identify an individual OPR record, the 'Referral Identifier' must be viewed in combination with the 'Organisation Code (Code of Provider)'. The infrastructure enabling records to be loaded onto the OPR national database needs to be updated to reflect this requirement so as to prevent any further instances of records being incorrectly overwritten.

Description of Change

To update the unique key for OPR data to ensure OPR records could be uniquely identified within the OPR DS.

Data Dictionary Version

This DSCN will be reflected in version 3.2 of the [NHS Wales Data Dictionary](#)

Actions Required

Actions for Health Solutions Wales and Business Services Centre (part of the NHS Wales Informatics Service):-

- Update the Generic Data Load (GDL) infrastructure of OPR data to ensure OPR records are uniquely identified using the 'Referral Identifier' and 'Organisation Code (Code of Provider)' in combination.

There are no actions for Local Health Boards / Trusts at this stage.

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

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

Data Definition Type	Name	New / Retired / Changed
Data Item	Referral Identifier	Changed

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 ~~strike through~~. The text shaded in **grey** shows existing text copied from the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Changes to existing Data Item:

Referral Identifier

This a-locally produced **code, in combination with the Organisation Code (Code of Provider),** is used to uniquely identify ~~ier for a referral.~~

Format: 12 character alpha-numeric