

WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2014 / 07
Date of Issue:	21 st November 2014

Ministerial / Official Letter: N/A	Subject: Main Specialty (Consultant)
Sponsor: Sally Greenway Head of Information Standards, Digital Health and Care, Department for Health and Social Services, Welsh Government.	
Implementation Date: 1 st April 2015	

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 Standards Board (WISB) at its meeting on 20th November 2014

WISB Reference: ISRN 2014 / 017

Summary:

To introduce revisions to the Main Specialty (consultant) data item to align with the English Main Specialty definition and value list defined by the Royal Colleges and Faculties.

Data sets / returns affected:

- Admitted Patient Care (APC)
- Outpatient data set (OP ds)
- Outpatient Referral data set (OPR ds)

Please address enquiries about this Data Set Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in NHS Wales Informatics Service

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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

The Welsh Information Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WISB 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

There has been long-standing confusion surrounding the definition and use of Specialty Codes in part caused by the use of identical code lists for both the Main Specialty (consultant) and Treatment Function data items.

In 2012, Health Boards responded to a Specialty Impact Assessment and highlighted the lack of clarity with the definition and use of identical codes lists for the Main Specialty (consultant) and Treatment Function data items. They also reported limited use of the Main Specialty (consultant) data item for local analysis and reporting. The NHS Wales Informatics Service Data Standards Team clarified that the Main Specialty (consultant) data item is a requirement for the HRG4 Reference Cost Grouper and therefore must be collected.

DDCN (2013/12) was issued to update the definition of Main Specialty (consultant) and to clarify that the titles are approved by the Royal Colleges and Faculties. The next stage of this work includes adoption of the complete definition from the English Data Model and Dictionary and the up to date code list of Main Specialties as defined by the Royal Colleges and Faculties.

The definition of Main Specialty in the English Data Model and Dictionary states that a consultant should have ONE Main Specialty per organisation, i.e. the specialty to which they are contracted. In preparation for the update, the NHS Wales Informatics Service Data Standards Team have shared with Health Boards a list of consultants registered with more than one Main Specialty in the National Reference Data Service (NRDS) and asked them to confirm the correct Main Specialty for each consultant.

Description of Change

To revise the definition and values associated with the data item "Main Specialty (consultant)". The revisions will accommodate the following changes effective from the 1st of April 2015:

- Adoption of the Main Specialty list as defined by the Royal Colleges and Faculties.
- Extension of the definition of Main Specialty to reflect the assignment of a single Main Specialty by the organisation to which the consultant is contracted.

The data sets affected are as follows:

- Admitted Patient Care (APC)
- Outpatient data set (OP ds)
- Outpatient Referral data set (OPR ds)

Data Dictionary Version

Where applicable, this DSCN reflects changes introduced by DSCN and/or DDCN since the release of version 4.6 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

The changes introduced by such DSCNs will be published in version 4.7 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary.

Actions Required

Local Health Boards / Trusts:

- Health Boards must reflect the changes made in the National Reference Data Service (NRDS) i.e. a consultant may only be registered against ONE Main Specialty per Health Board, in their operational systems by the proposed implementation date of 1st of April 2015.

NHS Wales Informatics Service:

- Retire the Validation at Source Service Consistency Check [50601] which validates that the Consultant Code and the Main Specialty (consultant) code submitted are consistent with NRDS.
- Before data submissions are due to be submitted by LHBs / Trusts, verify that the national data processing and reporting infrastructure is updated. This will ensure that the Main Specialty (consultant) data item values can be processed (e.g. via the NHS Wales Data Switching Service) and made available for regular and ad-hoc reporting purposes.
- Ensure affected national applications managed by NHS Wales Informatics Service, such as Myrddin and CANISC, are upgraded to ensure Main Specialty codes can be stored within the system and populated against consultant codes where relevant.

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

The following table shows all applicable data sets, data items, terms and other associated areas that are linked with the changes documented within this DSCN.

Each data definition type is listed in alphabetical order and is shown in the sequence in which it appears in this DSCN.

Data Definition Type	Name	New/Retired/Changed	Page Number
Data Item	Main Specialty (consultant)	Changed	6

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.

Changes to Data Items (A-Z)

Main Specialty (consultant)

(This data item was formerly known as 'Specialty Function Code' with the new title being implemented from 15th May 2006)

This data item is / was included in the following data sets / collections between the dates shown:

Data Set / Collection	Valid From	Valid To
APC ds99	1 st April 1999	
EAL ds	1 st April 1999	21 st November 2012
OP ds	1 st April 1999	
RTT	1 st April 2007	31 st August 2011
PP01W		
OPR ds	1 st July 2008	
RTT-PTR	1 st September 2008	30 th September 2009

~~Specialties are divisions of clinical work which may be defined by body systems (e.g. dermatology), age (e.g. paediatrics), clinical technology (e.g. nuclear medicine), clinical function (e.g. rheumatology), group of diseases (e.g. oncology) or combinations of these factors.~~

~~Only specialty titles recognised by the Royal Colleges and Faculties should be used. This list is maintained by the General and Specialist Medical Practice (Education, Training and Qualifications) Order 2003 and European Primary and Specialist Dental Qualifications Regulations 1998.~~

A unique code identifying each Main Specialty designated by Royal Colleges.

Specialties are divisions of clinical work which may be defined by body systems (dermatology), age (paediatrics), clinical technology (nuclear medicine), clinical function (rheumatology), group of diseases (oncology) or combinations of these factors. Only Specialty titles recognised by the Royal Colleges and Faculties should be used. This list is maintained by the General and Specialist Medical Practice (Education, Training and Qualifications) Order 2003 and European Primary and Specialist Dental Qualifications Regulations 1998.

Each consultant should be assigned a Main Specialty by the organisation to which the consultant is contracted. For physicians and surgeons with a generalist component to their work, the Main Specialty should be general medicine or general surgery. The hallmark of a general physician or general surgeon is the continued care of unselected emergency referrals. The Main Specialty is specific to a Health Care Provider. If, for example, a consultant

physician working in two Health Care Providers has a generalist component to the work in one and not the other, general medicine is only assigned as the Main Specialty in the former case. Consultants in general medicine or general surgery may also have specialist interests and these should be recorded as well as the Main Specialty.

The initial source of the information should be the designation on the consultant's contract. This should be checked periodically against the work a consultant is actually doing so that the statistics can relate to a consultant's current type of work.

The Main Specialty only should be used for the purpose of producing Specialty costing statistics and for Workforce statistics where links with activity and finance are required. Other specialist interests of consultants may be recorded for workforce planning purposes.

The Main Specialty code for general practitioners is General Medical Practice or General Dental Practice.

Joint Consultant Clinic activity should be recorded against the Main Specialty code of the consultant managing the clinic.

Format: 3 digit numeric

Value Code	Meaning Main Specialty Title	Valid From	Valid To
Surgical Specialties			
100	General Surgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
101	Urology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
110	Trauma & Orthopaedic	Pre 28 th December 1995	
120	ENT	Pre 28 th December 1995	
130	Ophthalmology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
140	Oral Surgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
141	Restorative Dentistry	Pre 28 th December 1995	
142	Paediatric Dentistry	Pre 28 th December 1995	
143	Orthodontics	Pre 28 th December 1995	
145	Oral & Maxillo Facial Surgery	1 st April 2015	
146	Endodontics	1 st April 2015	
147	Periodontics	1 st April 2015	
148	Prosthodontics	1 st April 2015	
149	Surgical Dentistry	1 st April 2015	
150	Neurosurgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
160	Plastic Surgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
170	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
171	Paediatric Surgery	Pre 28 th December 1995	
180	Accident & Emergency	Pre 28 th December 1995	
191	<i>Pain Management</i>	<i>Pre 28th December 1995</i>	<i>31st March 2015</i>
Medical Specialties			
190	Anaesthetics	Pre 28 th December 1995	
192	Critical Care Medicine	1 st April 2015	
199	<i>Non-UK provider; specialty function not know, treatment mainly</i>	<i>Pre 28th December 1995</i>	<i>31st March 2015</i>

	<i>surgical (only applicable for overseas providers)</i>		
300	General Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
301	Gastroenterology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
302	Endocrinology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
303	Clinical Haematology (Clinical)	Pre 28 th December 1995	
304	Clinical Physiology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
305	Clinical Pharmacology and therapeutics	Pre 28 th December 1995	
310	Audiological Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
311	Clinical Genetics	Pre 28 th December 1995	
312	Clinical Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
313	Clinical Immunology and Allergy	Pre 28 th December 1995	
314	Rehabilitation	Pre 28 th December 1995	
315	Palliative Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
320	Cardiology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
321	Paediatric Cardiology	1 st April 2015	
325	Sport And Exercise Medicine	1 st April 2015	
326	Acute Internal Medicine	1 st April 2015	
330	Dermatology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
340	Respiratory Medicine (also known as Thoracic Medicine)	Pre 28 th December 1995	
350	Infectious Diseases	Pre 28 th December 1995	
352	Tropical Medicine	1 st April 2015	
360	Genito-Urinary Genitourinary Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
361	Nephrology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
370	Medical Oncology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
371	Nuclear Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
400	Neurology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
401	Clinical Neuro-physiology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
410	Rheumatology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
420	Paediatrics	Pre 28 th December 1995	
421	Paediatric Neurology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
430	Geriatric Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
450	Dental Medicine Specialties	Pre 28 th December 1995	
451	Special Care Dentistry	1 st April 2015	
460	Medical Ophthalmology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
499	<i>Non-UK provider; specialty function not known, treatment mainly medical (only applicable for overseas providers)</i>	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015

500	Obstetrics And Gynaecology	1 st April 2015	
Obstetrics & Gynaecology			
501	Obstetrics (for patients using a bed)	Pre 28 th December 1995	
502	Gynaecology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
504	Community Sexual And Reproductive Health	1 st April 2015	
510	Obstetrics – AN (outpatients)	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
520	Obstetrics – PN (outpatients)	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
560	Midwifery Midwife Episode	Pre 28 th December 1995	
General Practice			
600	General Medical Practice	1 st April 2015	
601	General Dental Practice	1 st April 2015	
610	GP Maternity	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
620	GP Other	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
Psychiatry			
700	Mental Handicap Learning Disability	Pre 28 th December 1995	
710	Adult Mental Illness	Pre 28 th December 1995	
711	Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	Pre 28 th December 1995	
712	Forensic Psychiatry	Pre 28 th December 1995	
713	Pyschotherapy	Pre 28 th December 1995	
715	Old Age Psychiatry	Pre 28 th December 1995	
Radiology			
800	Clinical Oncology (previously Radiotherapy)	Pre 28 th December 1995	
810	Radiology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
Pathology			
820	General Pathology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
821	Blood Transfusion	Pre 28 th December 1995	
822	Chemical Pathology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
823	Haematology (non-clinical)	Pre 28 th December 1995	
824	Histopathology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
830	Immunopathology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
831	Medical Microbiology	Pre 28 th December 1995	
832	Neuropathology	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015
833	Medical Microbiology (Also Known As Microbiology And Bacteriology)	1 st April 2015	
834	Medical Virology	1 st April 2015	
Other			
900	Community Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
901	Occupational Medicine	Pre 28 th December 1995	
902	Community Health	1 st April 2015	

	Services Dental		
903	Public Health Medicine	1 st April 2015	
904	Public Health Dental	1 st April 2015	
950	Nursing Episode	Pre 28 th December 1995	
960	Allied Health Professional Episode	1 st April 2015	
990	Joint Consultant Clinics	Pre 28 th December 1995	31 st March 2015

Specialty Codes can be viewed through the following link to the National Reference Data Service (NRDS Website): <http://NRDS.cymru.nhs.uk>