

Data Provision Notice

Ambulance Clinical Outcomes (AmbCO)

Information Asset Owner: Nalyni Shanmugathan

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Change control

This is a revision of this Data Provision Notice both to support a change in the scope of the collection and to reflect the legal and organisational changes which came into effect on 1 February 2023.

The last version of this Data Provision Notice was issued by NHS Digital in June 2018 pursuant to a direction under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 from NHS England.

On 1 February 2023, the statutory functions of NHS Digital transferred to NHS England under the [Health and Social Care Information Centre \(Transfer of Functions, Abolition and Transitional Provisions\) Regulations 2023](#) (Transfer Regulations). Under these Transfer Regulations, all directions from either the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care or NHS England to NHS Digital are now treated as directions from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to NHS England.

Consequently, the legal basis for this Notice is still the direction identified below, with its status now deemed to be a direction from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to NHS England under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Background

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act) gives [NHS England](#) statutory powers, under section 259(1)(a), to require data from health or social care bodies, or organisations that provide publicly funded health or adult social care in England, where it has been directed to establish an information system by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

The data, as specified by NHS England in this published Data Provision Notice, is required to support a direction from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to NHS England. Therefore, organisations that are in scope of the notice are legally required, under section 259(5) of the Act, to provide the data in the form and manner specified below.

Purpose and Benefits

Along with Ambulance Systems Indicators (AmbSYS), Ambulance Clinical Outcomes (AmbCO) comprises the NHS England Ambulance Quality Indicators (AQI) monthly publication at: www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ambulance-qualityindicators.

The AQI are for:

- Ambulance Services to manage the service they provide;
- NHS England to monitor the service, and respond to enquiries from the media and the public;
- Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to brief ministers on performance and account to Parliament;
- Parliament, the media and the public to hold the public service organisations to account;
- Commissioners to commission services.

The Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Outcomes (OHCAO) programme at the University of Warwick compliments the AmbCO data.

The National Institute for Cardiovascular Outcomes Research (NICOR) provides counts and times from their Myocardial Ischaemia National Audit Project, as does the Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP). These programmes also compliment the

AmbCo data. These have become part of AmbCO, collecting records from hospitals which Ambulance Service then add to.

Legal basis for collection, analysis, publication and dissemination

Collection and analysis

NHS England has been directed by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012; to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the information specified for this service. The direction and accompanying requirements specification are published on the NHS England website at [The migration and continued operation of the Unify2 collections through Strategic Data Collections Service Direction 2017 - NHS England Digital](#)

This information is required by NHS England under section 259(1)(a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In line with section 259(5) of the Act, all organisations in scope, in England, must comply with the requirement and provide information to NHS England in the form, manner and period specified in this Data Provision Notice.

This Notice is issued in accordance with the procedure published as part of an NHS England duty under section 259(8).

Publication

Under section 260(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, NHS England must publish all information it obtains by complying with a direction under section 254 or a request under section 255 of the Act unless the information falls within section 260(2). The AmbCo data are published here:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ambulance-quality-indicators/>

Dissemination

This data is not made available via the DARS service.

Transparency

NHS England has issued a Transparency Notice for this data collection as required under Article 14 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

Data providers in scope of this Data Provision Notice are required under Article 13 of the UK GDPR to provide their own transparency information to their patients (data subjects) and can link to the NHS England Transparency Notice to provide additional information.

The details of any data disseminations made by NHS England from this collection will be regularly published in the [Data Uses Register](#) which is available on the NHS England website.

Persons consulted

Following receipt of a direction to establish a system to collect AmbCO, NHS England has, as required under section 258 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, consulted with the following persons:

- Department of Health and Social Care, as directing organisation
- The Ambulance Data Board, including:
 - National Ambulance Service Clinical Quality Group (NASCQG)
 - National Ambulance Service Medical Directors (NASMeD)
 - Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AAACE)
 - National Directors of Operations Group (NDOG)

Scope of the collection

Under section 259(1)(a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, this Notice is served in accordance with the procedure published as part of the NHS England duty under section 259(8) on the following persons:

- NHS Ambulance Services

Under section 259(5) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 the organisation types specified above must comply with the Form, Manner and Period requirements below.

Form of the collection

NHS England receive aggregate data for AmbCO on a purpose built Excel template.

Manner of the collection

The eleven NHS Ambulance Services in England supply counts of patients who have fallen, or had a certain type of heart attack, via the Strategic Data Collection Service (SDCS) and template designed by NHS England. More information about SDCS is here:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/services/strategic-data-collection-service-sdcs>

Period of the collection

AmbCO is a monthly collection, published with a lag of four months, NHS England publish an up to date timetable here: www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ambulance-quality-indicators.

Data quality

Data quality validations are built into the Excel submission template to ensure validity and consistency of data across all 11 providers. Additional measures are also in place prior to publication whereby analysts work with providers to ensure submitted data is accurate. NHS England ask providers every six months to revise their data.

Burden of the collection

Steps taken by NHS England to minimise the burden of collection

NHS England has a statutory duty under section 253(2)(a) of the Act to seek to minimise the burden it imposes on others. In seeking to meet these obligations in relation to this collection, NHS England meets NASCQG representatives several times a year in a sub-group of the ADB to discuss the collection. It was in these meetings NHS England agreed in 2017/18 to only collect some indicators for four months each year, and agreed in 2024 to

change the months in which two indicators were collect so that suppliers' workloads were better balanced.

In addition, in support of its obligation under 265(3) of the Act, NHS England has an assessment process to validate and challenge the level of burden incurred through introducing new information standards, collections and extractions.

This process is carried out by the Data Standards Assurance Service (DSAS) which assures burden assessment evidence as part of the overarching Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) approval process. The DAPB, acting under authority of the Secretary of State, oversees the assurance, approval and publication of information standards and data collections for the health and social care system in England.