

Data Provision Notice

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Data Set v2.1

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Information and technology
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Background

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act) gives the Health and Social Care Information Centre, now known as [NHS Digital](#) and hereafter referred to by this name, 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 Secretary of State) or NHS England.

The data, as specified by NHS Digital in this published Data Provision Notice (DPN), is required to support directions from the Secretary of State and separately from NHS England to NHS Digital. 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.

This DPN is published to support a minor change to the IAPT data set to uplift to version 2.1, for which data collection commences on 1 April 2022.

Purpose of the collection

The Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Data Set (IAPT Data Set) is a patient level, output based, secondary uses data set which aims to deliver robust, comprehensive, nationally consistent and comparable person-based information for people referred to NHS commissioned adult IAPT services for depression and anxiety in England.

As a secondary uses data set it intends to re-use clinical and operational data for purposes other than direct patient care. It defines the data items, definitions and associated value sets extracted or derived from local information systems.

The IAPT Data Set is used to inform service improvements and monitor service performance, clinical interventions, patient experience and treatment outcomes. In particular it has been designed to support the introduction of access and waiting time standard measurements¹ supporting part of the NHS Long Term Plan² and policy commitments related to putting mental health on a par with physical health.

The [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Data Set](#) includes information on:

- Patient Demographics: including geographical, gender, age, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability and accommodation
- Care Pathways: referral details, Mental Health Care Cluster details and provisional/historical diagnosis information
- Care Contacts and Care Activities: session details and any clinical, economic and social outcomes recorded relating to the interventions and coded scored assessments provided
- Waiting Time Pauses: [activity suspension](#) periods across the patient's care pathway
- [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Patient Experience Questionnaires](#): Improving Access to Psychological Therapies treatment and assessment questionnaires

¹ <https://www.england.nhs.uk/mentalhealth/resources/access-waiting-time/>

² <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/areas-of-work/mental-health/>

- [National Tariff Payment System](#): Additional data items to support the introduction and development of a payment system for [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Services](#).
- Care Personnel: Qualifications of the Care Personnel delivering treatment.

NHS Digital publishes official statistics³ from the IAPT submitted data. The reports are made available on a monthly and annual basis and support the effective monitoring of service standards including efficiency, equity and effectiveness of service.

Previous development history of the ISB1520 Information Standard can be found on [The National Archives website](#), and on the current [DAPB1520 website](#). The IAPT data set responds to changes in clinical practice or coding, changes to policy requirements, changes to the NHS Data Model and Dictionary in light of other Information Standards, and requests for amendments by care providers or system suppliers.

There are two high-level drivers for the development of this revised data set (Version 2.1), which are:

1. Alignment of the data set as previously adopted by the Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS)
2. Collection of 'new' data to facilitate wider national reporting.

The IAPT V2.1 Change Specification and Technical Output Specification have been developed in accordance with the current directions⁴. These documents provide the detail of the changes for this iteration of the data set and can be accessed from the [NHS Digital IAPT webpage](#)⁵. The Information Standard release and associated documentation including the Information Standards Notice can be found on the Data Alliance and Partnership Board publication page for this [DAPB1520 IAPT data set](#) Information Standard.

Benefits of the collection

All patients should enjoy equitable access to good quality, effective services that are appropriate to their needs. IAPT data set data collected for secondary uses is used by various secondary use functions such as:

- Clinicians to evaluate the effectiveness, refine and adapt the interventions provided using patient outcome measures
- Development and refinement of policy relating to psychological therapies
- Monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies \(IAPT\) Programme](#)
- The equity of provision in relation to geographical, gender, age, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and disability coverage of the new services

³ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set-reports>

⁴ <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notice/nhs-england-directions>

⁵ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set>

- The profile of therapy types provided, diagnosis pattern and durations of interventions and the frequency of multi-step interventions; and the relationship of these to presenting problems, medication usage, outcomes (clinical, symptomatic, work and social)
- Performance management at [Clinical Commissioning Group](#) and national level
- Better planning and management of services at local level
- Waiting Time monitoring through the central calculation of waiting times
- Monitoring of patient experience to inform service delivery
- Capture of activity and movement across the stepped care pathway
- The development of a payment system for [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Services](#).

Reporting routinely includes the monitoring of:

- equality of access to mental health services for all patients
- compliance with standards set by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)
- outcomes
- patient experience of mental health services including waiting times
- provision of services as commissioned.

Legal basis for the collection, analysis, publication and dissemination

NHS Digital has been directed by the Secretary of State and separately by NHS England under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012; to establish and operate systems for the collection and analysis of the information specified for this service. A copy of the IAPT Directions are available on the [NHS Digital Directions webpage](#)⁶.

This information is required by NHS Digital 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 Digital 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 NHS Digital's duty under section 259(8).

NHS Digital has a central reporting system where an anonymised version of the IAPT data set will be held for reporting purposes. This platform will support the analysis of IAPT data and serve the following purposes:

- In accordance with section 260(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, aggregated data will be published on the NHS Digital website will provide effective

⁶ <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notice>

monitoring of service standards, including efficiency, equity and effectiveness of service, by policy makers.

- Extracts of the submitted data are returned back to the care providers via the data landing platform to allow the local monitoring of service provision, assist with allocating payments and help submitters to improve data quality.
- IAPT data set data is disseminated to other organisations such as commissioners following application through the Data Access Request Service (DARS) and oversight by the Independent Group Advising on the Release of Data (IGARD).
- Aggregated data will also be made available at provider level to help to inform a patients' care and treatment choices.
- Where it is lawful to do so, the data held in the IAPT data set may be linked to other data for which NHS Digital is the Controller. More information about the data sets and collections that NHS Digital hold and that may be used for linkage can be found on the NHS Digital website.
- Where it is lawful to do so, the IAPT data may also be linked to external data sources.

Linkage is carried out in order to investigate the relationship between care in IAPT services and other activity, such as referrals to other mental health services, and patients use of services other than mental health care.

Persons consulted

Following receipt of directions from the Secretary of State and NHS England to establish systems to collect Improving Access to Psychological Therapies data, NHS Digital 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
- NHS England and NHS Improvement IAPT Outcome and Informatics Stakeholder Group
- NHS England and NHS Improvement – Sponsor
- NHS England and NHS Improvement – Senior Responsible Officer
- IAPT Data Set Development Expert Reference Group
- The Data Alliance Partnership Board
- Care provider organisations and system suppliers

The Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) has been established as part of a system-wide information and technology governance model. The DAPB acts with delegated authority from the Secretary of State as the main governance route through which all data collections and standards requirements are agreed, and priorities assigned.

The DAPB has a broad role in engaging system partners to support NHS Digital in its statutory function to reduce the burden of data collection. The DAPB operating remit covers all Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs) and Adult Social Care and has structured its membership to support this remit.

The IAPT Data Set will be subject to regular review by NHS Digital and will be uplifted accordingly to include changes in support of policy or legislation, and local practice changes. This process involves extensive consultation with representatives of care provider organisations, including informatics staff and clinicians, system suppliers, and various other stakeholders.

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 Digital duty under section 259(8) on the following persons:

All activity relating to people accessing NHS commissioned adult IAPT services for depression and anxiety in England. This includes activity relating to people under the age of 18 accessing NHS commissioned adult IAPT services including:

- NHS Mental Health Trusts
- NHS Acute Trusts⁷
- NHS Community Health Trusts⁸
- Independent and third sector healthcare providers offering a service model that includes NHS funded patients where this is direct provision of IAPT services.

Please see the *Requirements Specification* for the full scope of the IAPT Data Set. This document is available from the [DAPB1520 IAPT data set webpage](#).

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

Form of the collection

Full details of the data to be collected can be found in the IAPT V2.1 Data Set Specification on the [DAPB1520 IAPT data set webpage](#)⁹.

Manner of the collection

Providers of IAPT Services MUST create a data submission file as set out in the *Technical Output Specification*. Therefore, providers of IAPT Services MUST be able to:

- Collate and extract data from local IT systems as per the *Technical Output Specification*.

⁷ Where there is direct provision of IAPT services

⁸ Where there is direct provision of IAPT services

⁹ <https://digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb1520>

- Structure the data and create a data submission file using the *Intermediate Database (IDB)*. Details about how to obtain the IDB are available on the [NHS Digital IAPT webpage](#)¹⁰.
- Apply the basic validation rules and ensure that the submission file conforms to these, as per the *Technical Output Specification*.
- Ensure the data submission file only contains data that relates to the specified monthly reporting period and relates to one provider organisation.
- Must submit data submission files via the specified IAPT data landing platform as per the data submission protocol highlighted in the SDCS Cloud Submission Guidance¹¹.

The *Technical Output Specification* is available from the [NHS Digital IAPT data set webpage](#)¹².

Period of the collection

IAPT V2.1 will be collected locally from 1 April 2022 with national submissions commencing on 16 May 2022 for April 2022 data.

Central data submission will continue as per the [IAPT data set submission timetable](#)¹³. The frequency of the submission has not been altered and will continue on a monthly basis.

Data quality

NHS Digital is committed to supporting providers at the point of submission investigating any unexpected variations in data in order to improve data quality. Also following submission, NHS Digital will work with providers where there are concerns with data quality to improve future submissions. Feedback from providers is published to inform other users about the cause and impact of known data quality issues.

As per the *Requirements Specification*, providers of IAPT services MUST review the *Technical Output Specification* to understand the data quality rules that will be applied to each data group on arrival at the data landing platform. Data quality issues will be highlighted in a data quality report made available to the providers for them to take further action before the submission window closes.

Responsibilities, and associated conformance criteria, with regard to data quality are detailed within the *Requirements Specification* available from the [NHS Digital IAPT webpage](#).

As an output data set, the IAPT data set does not mandate design of local systems or specific local data quality measures. However, the data set developers have outlined recommendations for consideration by data providers to ensure good data quality in respect

¹⁰ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set>

¹¹ <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/strategic-data-collection-service-in-the-cloud-sdcs-cloud>

¹² <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set>

¹³ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set>

of the extracted submission. These recommendations can be found in the *Implementation Guidance* available from the [DAPB1520 IAPT data set webpage](#).

Provider level data quality reports, which provide data validation of some key data items in the IAPT data set, are available as part of the monthly IAPT data set publication¹⁴.

Further Information and Support

A comprehensive set of documentation, including all documents referenced in this Data Provision Notice, has been produced by the developers for the IAPT Information Standard. These documents are arranged across two areas of the NHS Digital website as follows:

- [DAPB1520 ISN Publication webpage](#)¹⁵: Contains DAPB Information Standard documentation which define the standard and remain static.
- [IAPT Specifications and Guidance webpage](#)¹⁶: Contains supporting technical documentation as well as organisational assessment and planning tools. These documents and tools are continually reviewed by the developers and updated where necessary.

Please see section 2.4 of the *Implementation Guidance* for a full list and descriptions of each related document and where they can be found.

For specific enquiries relating to the IAPT please contact NHS Digital:

Telephone: 0300 303 5678

Email: enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk (please include 'FAO IAPT' in subject line).

Burden of the collection

Steps taken by NHS Digital to minimise the burden of collection

NHS Digital has a statutory obligation to keep collections under review on an ongoing basis. As such, the IAPT Data Set is regularly reviewed to ensure it:

- remains fit for purpose
- maintains alignment with clinical practice and coding
- responds to policy requirements
- matches the NHS Data Model and Dictionary
- is corrected in light of issues highlighted by stakeholders.

¹⁴ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set-reports>

¹⁵ www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb1520

¹⁶ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/improving-access-to-psychological-therapies-data-set>

A new Data Provision Notice may be issued following any amendments to the data set resulting from regular review.

In discharging its duty to seek to minimise the burden it imposes on others; NHS Digital has sought to minimise the burden on care providers as part of the version 2.0 update by:

- using a newly developed relational data set structure which more closely resembles how the data is locally captured
- allowing a choice of terminology and classification scheme (e.g. SNOMED CT) to minimise the burden of mapping to a single mandated scheme
- reviewing the v1.5 content and removing any data items that are no longer required, to ensure the data set is a 'minimum' data set.

In seeking to minimise the burden it imposes on others, in line with sections 253(2a) and 265(3) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, NHS Digital has an assessment process to validate and challenge the level of burden incurred through introducing new information standards, collections and extractions.

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

Assessed costs

The associated burden of the data collection is:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---|
| Data Provider set-up costs | £298k | The set-up costs assessed for v2.1 were based upon the staff times involved with the implementation of the v2.1 changes. |
| Data Provider ongoing costs | £566k | The ongoing annual cost of making monthly submissions in the new v2.1 format. |
| NHS Digital costs | £792k | Includes NHS Digital costs, which cover ISN development and all ongoing support for the release, such as development of the submission platform. Additionally, the continuation of existing reporting requirements identified by NHS England and NHS Improvement. |
| Total burden | £1.65m | Total version costs |

This is the existing associated burden and the figures are subject to change should any further burden assessments take place.

For further information

www.digital.nhs.uk

0300 303 5678

enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk

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