

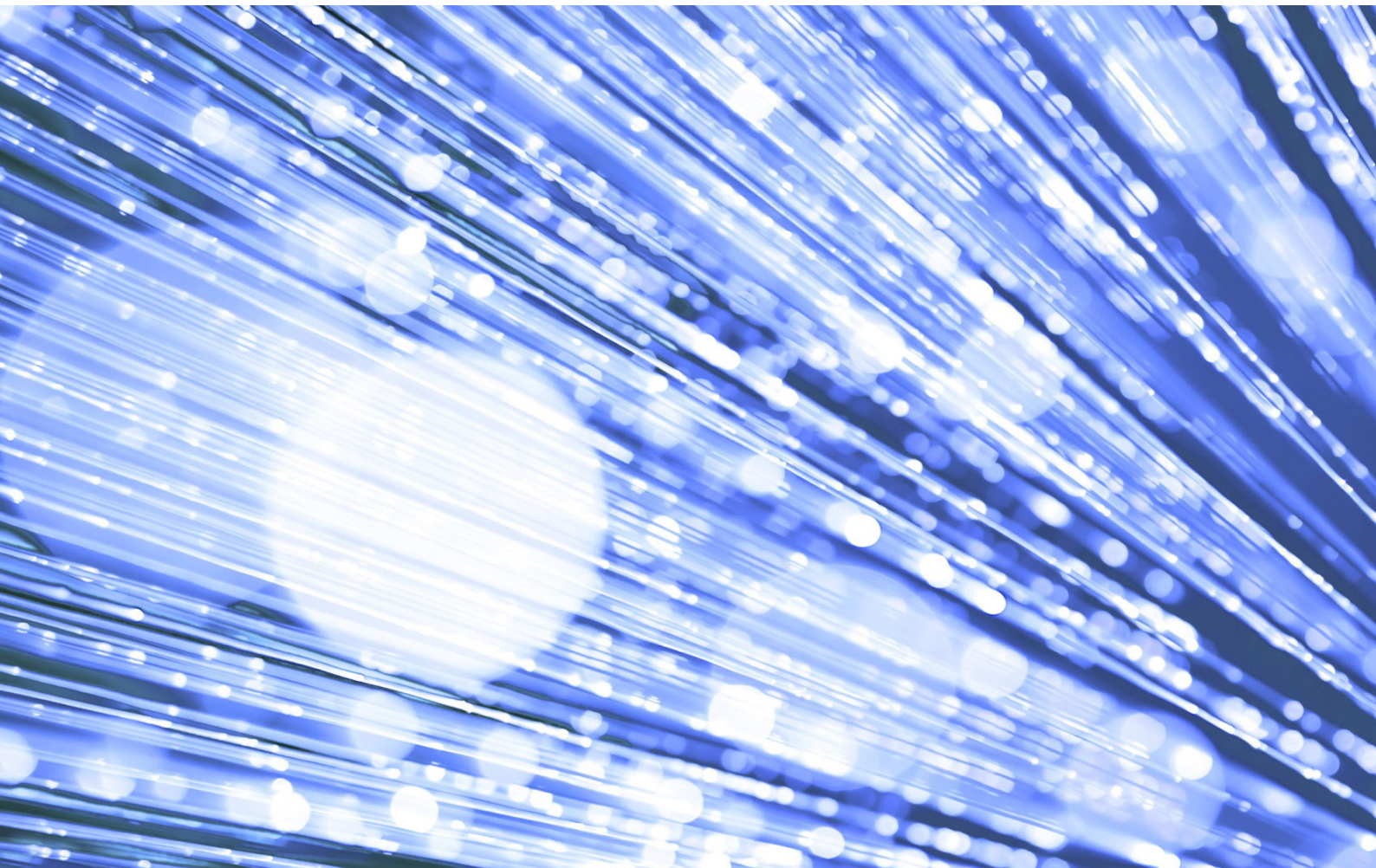
# Data Provision Notice

Out of Area Placements (OAPs) collection in Mental Health Services (NHS and Private Providers)

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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 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 or NHS England.

The data, as specified by NHS Digital in this published Data Provision Notice, is required to support a direction from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care 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.

## Purpose of the collection

NHS Digital has developed an Out of Area Placements (OAPs) collection (previously known as Out of Area Treatments). This has been developed to capture the details of all OAPs in mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care in England by both the NHS and private providers. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care directed NHS Digital to carry out this work.

The OAPs collection has been designed to record the details of any individual who has been referred for an out of area placement in England. An “out of area placement” for acute mental health inpatient care is defined as happening when:

a patient with assessed acute mental health needs who requires non-specialised inpatient care (Integrated Care Board (ICB) commissioned), is admitted to a unit that does not form part of the usual local network of services. This includes inpatient units that:

- a) are not run by the patient’s home mental health care provider, regardless of distance travelled or whether the admitting unit is run by an NHS or Independent Sector Provider (ISP)
- b) are not intended to admit people living in the catchment of the person’s local Community Mental Health Team (CMHT)
- c) are located in a place where the person cannot be visited regularly by their care coordinator to ensure continuity of care and effective discharge planning<sup>1</sup>.

A fuller explanation is available on the following website:

[Mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care: out of area placements - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/mental-health-services-for-adults-in-acute-inpatient-care-out-of-area-placements)

The OAPs data collection was originally set up as an interim 12-month collection starting in October 2016. The Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS) (v2) started to collect OAPs information from April 2017 (currently on MHSDS v5.0). The two sources of data were showing different results and additional time was required to align these results and the collection was extended. There is still a need for additional time to resolve data quality issues with some providers and onboard non submitting providers, especially those in the Independent Sector. The DHSC issued further extensions to continue the collection until 31st March 2024. There are ongoing plans in place to work with providers to understand the issues they face to close this duplicate collection.

The Mental Health team at NHS Digital has worked with both senders and receivers of OAPS to improve the quality of the data that is being submitted to the MHSDS collection as

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<sup>1</sup> The care coordinator should be able to visit the person as regularly as stated in their Trust’s policy.

well as resolve issues with non-submission. This has helped to understand the issues that providers are facing so these can be dealt with in partnership with stakeholders to help increase MHSDS coverage and align the two sources of data as soon as possible.

NHS Digital is to continue to publish monthly reports on the numbers of OAPs. Numbers will be rounded so individuals cannot be identified including at a national level. Previous monthly reports had suppressed zeroes, but these are now published to help identify those organisations that are not sending any patients out of area.

A comprehensive review of the consistencies and differentials between MHSDS and the CAP collection has been undertaken and is refreshed every month, this involves:

- Matching MHSDS to CAP at the individual patient level.
- Undertaking a detailed analysis of the differences between the two data sets, in terms of the patients identified and the associated data.
- Hosting webinars with all providers that Send or Receive OAPS and highlighting all the issues.
- Engaging with providers directly and through regional and policy leads.

## Benefits of the collection

The Government set a national ambition to eliminate inappropriate OAPs in mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care by 2020-21. Unfortunately, this target has had to be delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and has now been extended until 31st March 2024. Inappropriate OAPs are where patients are sent out of area because no bed is available for them locally which can delay their recovery. It was essential to introduce a collection of OAPs data in order to monitor progress towards achieving the ambition and to understand where and why OAPs are happening. Having this information is critical to improving patient care and ultimately eliminating the practice of inappropriately sending patients out of area to receive acute inpatient care.

## Legal basis for the collection, analysis, publication and dissemination

NHS Digital 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 extended Directions and original are published here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notice/secretary-of-state-directions/collection-of-out-of-area-placements-oaps-for-adults-in-acute-mental-health-inpatient-services-direction-2016>

Under section 254 of the 2012 Act, NHS Digital is required to:

- Collect data that includes administrative information, information about the reasons for admission, and diagnostic information about adults who receive acute inpatient care in mental health services. This data will be aggregated at provider and ICB (Sub Location) level and all data, in accordance with NHS Digital's mandatory standards or Anonymisation Standard for Publishing Health and Social Care Data, will be anonymised when published on NHS Digital's website. DHSC has agreed for this information to be published on a monthly basis.
- Share aggregate data at provider and ICB (Sub location) level collected under this Direction (in accordance with NHS Digital's mandatory standards or Anonymisation

Standard for Publishing Health and Social Care Data) with the DHSC, NHS England, NHS organisations and Independent Sector Providers responsible for commissioning and providing acute mental health services in England.

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 NHS providers and independent (private) providers performing NHS funded care, 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 duties under section 259(8).

NHS Digital must take steps to ensure that no data collected under these Directions are shared or published by any means which may lead to the identification of an individual.

## Persons consulted

Following receipt of a Direction to establish a system to collect Out of Area Placements (OAPs) collection in Mental Health Services, NHS Digital has, as required under section 258 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, consulted with the following persons:

The OAPs definition has been extensively tested with providers, commissioners, experts and users to ensure the definition and the reasons for OAPs are easy to understand and reflect providers understanding.

Key data items were tested with:

- NHS Improvement (now NHS England)
- Department of Health and Social Care
- NHS Digital
- NHS England.

The data collection data items have also been tested with providers and commissioners through a number of workshops and online demonstrations to ensure that these data items would be possible for providers to submit. In addition, the list of bed types included in the data collection has been tested through an NHS Benchmarking consultation. A list of providers who have been involved are below:

- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT
- Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS FT
- Isle of Wight NHS Trust
- Avon and Wiltshire MH Partnership NHS Trust
- Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS FT
- Bradford District Care NHS FT
- Central and North West London NHS FT
- South London and Maudsley NHS FT
- Merseycare NHS Trust
- Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
- West London MH NHS Trust
- Norfolk and Suffolk NHS FT
- Oxleas NHS FT
- Camden and Islington NHS FT
- Sheffield health and social care NHS FT
- Birmingham and Solihull MH NHS FT.

Following consultation, the data set has been reviewed by:

- Department of Health and Social Care
- NHS Digital
- NHS England.

## 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 any Mental Health care provider in England that provides local acute mental health services and has responsibility for sending any patient out of area. The following list of organisations are in scope of this collection and must submit data (but the collection is not restricted to this list of organisations):

Region	Organisation
London	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust
London	Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust
London	Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust
London	East London NHS Foundation Trust
London	North East London NHS Foundation Trust
London	Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust
London	South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
London	South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust
London	West London Mental Health NHS Trust
Midlands and East	Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust
Midlands and East	Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
Midlands and East	Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

Midlands and East	Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Midlands and East	Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands and East	Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
North	5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
North	Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust
North	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
North	Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
North	Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
North	Humber NHS Foundation Trust
North	Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust
North	Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
North	Mersey Care NHS Trust
North	Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
North	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
North	Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
North	Sheffield Health & Social Care NHS Foundation Trust
North	South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
North	Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
South	2gether NHS Foundation Trust
South	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
South	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
South	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
South	Devon Partnership NHS Trust

South	Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust
South	Isle of Wight NHS Trust
South	Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust
South	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust
South	Solent NHS Trust
South	Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
South	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
South	Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
South	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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:

- Independent Sector Service Providers in England that place NHS funded patients must submit data.

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 as follows:

### Form of the collection

A list of the data items to be collected can be found by clicking on the Data Items tab within the link “OAPS Data Items Specification”, that can be found at the following link: [Out of Area Placements \(OAPs\) - NHS Digital](#)

The following patient identifiable information is included in the collection:

- NHS Number
- First name
- Surname
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Date of birth
- Post code

### Manner of the collection

Data will be submitted by providers using the NHS Digital secure online Clinical Audit Platform (CAP).

A link to the system is available here: <https://clinicalaudit.hscic.gov.uk/>

Clinicians and administrative staff submitting data to CAP will be required to register to use the system by creating a Single Sign On (SSO) account with NHS Digital and completing and submitting a registration form which needs to be signed off by the provider organisation's Caldicott Guardian.

The OAPs User Registration Form can be found under Provider Documents on the OAPs webpage: [Out of Area Placements \(OAPs\) - NHS Digital](#)

The OAPs Operational Guidance can be found under Provider Documents on the same webpage, to help providers submit data.

There is also a Paper Data Collection Form available under Provider Documents on the same webpage, under “OAPs Data Recording Form - v3.4”, for providers to record the required information, in the unlikely event of the CAP system not being available. It is advised that data is captured electronically on CAP as close as possible to the placement commencing and before the submission window closes (see Period of the Collection). Local processes should be agreed as to how the data collection is to be completed.

All data items are mandatory except for ethnicity. All data items should be known by the sending provider at the time of entering data into CAP. The exceptions are the cost per bed type and discharge date which will need to be obtained by the receiving provider/responsible ICB. Until the information is known, a dummy date (01/01/1900 to be used) and zero cost can be submitted. Sending providers will need to update these records in CAP once the information is known, otherwise the OAP will remain active.

### **Period of the collection**

The OAPs collection was launched on Monday 17th October 2016 and was initially extended to March 2018 with a series of further extensions since agreed. The latest extension is until 31st March 2024, to align with the long-term plan and the national ambition to eliminate inappropriate OAPs. NHS England is in support of this change.

Local processes will need to be agreed as to when data is entered into the system before each monthly submission deadline date. A Data Submission Timetable of the monthly cut-off dates can be found under Provider Documents on the OAPs webpage: <http://digital.nhs.uk/oaps>.

This latest extension is to allow non-compliant providers, especially Independent Sector Providers, to onboard their data to the Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS) or to make corrections to their submissions. The MHSDS is the chosen mechanism for the long-term collection of this data and the interim collection has aided in understanding the data quality issues and in informing MHSDS guidance. It is expected that this collection will move to the MHSDS collection once all the agreed handover criteria have been met.

Where organisations are submitting to the two sources, there is now a high degree of consistency in terms of volumes but not yet Bed Days.

### **Data quality**

The quality of the data within CAP will be reviewed on a monthly basis during report production and any data quality issues will be fed back to providers. Any user guidance will also be reviewed and updated.

Data across CAP and the MHSDS will be reviewed during the dual collection period (April 2017- until otherwise instructed). This will help validate the quality of data across both systems, so this can be fully integrated into MHSDS.

## **Burden of the collection**

### **Steps taken by NHS Digital to minimise the burden of collection**

In discharging its statutory duty to minimise the burden it imposes on others, NHS Digital has:

- Created a bespoke collection system which allows both manual and bulk upload facilities for ease of data entry;
- Worked to ensure only the minimum data items are requested for collection;
- Enabled linkage to other datasets to reduce duplication of effort.

In seeking to minimise the burden it imposes on others, in line with sections 253 (2)(a) 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) who assure 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.

### Detailed burden assessment findings - Assessed costs

The associated burden of the data collection is:

Burden on providers	£563.2k	Includes all providers
Set up costs for the data collection	£97.7k	Includes NHS Digital and supplier costs, representing a maximum estimate.
Other costs of the data collection	£56k	Training costs (Clinical Audit Platform)
<b>Total Burden</b>	<b>£716.9k</b>	

These provider costs cover total time taken per month per trust to provide the data based on initial assessments carried out with a sample of providers by NHS Digital.

### For further information

[www.digital.nhs.uk](http://www.digital.nhs.uk)

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