

DAPB1577 Diagnostic Imaging Data Set (DIDS) v2.0

Change
Specification



Data Assurance Board

The Data Assurance Board (DAB), which holds delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, has approved a change to an existing information standard for publication under [section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012](#).

Assurance that this information standard meets the requirements of the Act and is appropriate for the use specified in the specification document has been provided by the Data Governance Assurance and Testing (DGAT) team and endorsed by the Data Assurance Board (DAB).

This information standard comprises the following documents:

- Change Specification (this document)
- Implementation Guidance
- Requirements Specification
- Technical Output Specification

An Information Standards Notice (DAPB1557 Amd 25/2025) has been issued as a notification of use and implementation timescales. Please read this alongside the documents for the standard.

The controlled copies of these documents can be found on the [NHS England website](#). Any copies held outside of that area, in whatever format (e.g. paper, email attachment), are considered to have passed out of control and should be checked for currency and validity.

Date of publication: 08 October 2025



This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

Document filename:	DAPB1577 Amd 25/2025 Change Specification		
Project / Programme	Data Design Development		
Document Reference	DIDS v2.0 Change Specification		
Project Manager	John Winter	Status	-Final
Owner	Chris Turner	Version	1.0
Author	Raji Nalabothu	Version issue date	26/08/2025

Document management

Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
0.1	30/04/2025	Draft created for first review
0.2	15/05/2025	Second draft for review
0.3	20/05/2025	Third draft for review
0.4	22/05/2025	Fourth draft for review
0.5	22/06/2025	Fifth draft for review
0.6	17/07/2025	Sixth draft for review
0.7	11/08/2025	Updated following DGAT feedback
0.8	14/08/2025	Minor updates following DGAT feedback
0.9	26/08/2025	Minor updates including updates to links for submission to DGAT

Reviewers

This document must be reviewed by the following people:

Reviewer name	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
Chris Turner	Lead Data Architect		Various
John Winter	Data Operations Principal Manager		Various

Derise Smith	Manager – Data Governance and Assurance		Various
Dominic Gair	Service Owner (Lead) Data Products (HES, ECDS, ADS, DIDS) & IAO	20/08/2025	0.8

Approved by

This document must be approved by the following people:

Name	Signature	Title	Date	Version
Tom Latham		Head of Data Design	19/08/2025	0.8
Dominic Gair		Service Owner (Lead) Data Products (HES, ECDS, ADS, DIDS) & IAO	20/08/2025	0.8
John Winter		Data Operations Principal Manager	20/08/2025	0.8

Glossary of Terms

A full glossary of terms is available in the [Requirements Specification](#) that accompanies this Standard.

Contents

1. Overview	6
1.1. Summary	6
2. Helpdesk/contacts	6
3. Statement of all changes to the published Requirements Specification	6
3.1. Background and justification for release	6
3.2. Changes to Data Items	7
3.2.1. Addition of new tables and associated data items	7
3.2.2. Replacement of Data Items	10
3.2.3. NHS Data Model and Dictionary Maintenance Updates	10
3.2.4. Additions	11
3.2.5. Replacements	14
3.2.6. Deletions	15
3.2.7. Maintenance Updates	15
3.2.8. Change Control	15
3.3. Change to submission method	16
4. Statement of all changes to Implementation Guidance	16
Appendix A: Useful web links	17

1. Overview

1.1. Summary

A description of the Diagnostic Imaging Data Set v2.0 Information Standard, along with benefits, who it applies to and other relevant information such as the full conformance date, is contained within the [Requirements Specification](#) which is to be read in conjunction with this document.

2. Helpdesk/contacts

For specific enquiries relating to the DIDS Information Standard please contact NHS England via the central customer service centre:

Email: enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk (please include 'FAO DIDS v2.0 Implementation' in subject line).

3. Statement of all changes to the published Requirements Specification

3.1. Background and justification for release

The previous DIDS (version 1.0) had been reporting activity since April 2012. The DIDS information standard was approved in July 2016 as a conversion to an existing standard under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

NHS England maintain the content of the data set through stakeholder engagement with the following:

- Sections of NHS England
- Clinicians
- The Royal College of Radiologists
- The Society of Radiographers
- Care providers
- IT system providers
- Commissioners.

The changes for this version, DIDS version 2.0 (v2.0), are intended to enable the data set to meet a number of new user requirements that have emerged relating to diagnostic imaging data since the time it was introduced in 2012, particularly relating to understanding and supporting services more effectively in order to improve outcomes of care.

Further details on these drivers and justification for the changes being made to the data set are outlined below.

3.2. Changes to Data Items

3.2.1. Addition of new tables and associated data items

Following the requirements elaboration and consultation process, DIDS v2.0 will retain the flat file structure of DIDS v1.0.

A total of 4 data groups have been created for v2.0 of the DIDS. The data groups will capture:

- The Header data items, to support the file submission and identification of the reporting period.
- The Master Patient Index data items, to capture patient information.
- The Referral data items, to capture information about the referral.
- The Activity data items, to capture information about the activity and report times.

Each of the 4 data groups, and the data items contained within them, are set out in the below tables. The bold data item names indicate mandatory data items.

DIDS000_HEADER

Data Item UID	Data Item Name	v2.0 Status
DIDS000001	DATA SET VERSION NUMBER	New to v2.0
DIDS000002	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF PROVIDER)	New to v2.0
DIDS000003	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF SUBMITTING ORGANISATION)	New to v2.0
DIDS000004	PRIMARY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM IN USE	New to v2.0
DIDS000005	REPORTING PERIOD START DATE	New to v2.0
DIDS000006	REPORTING PERIOD END DATE	New to v2.0
DIDS000007	DATE AND TIME DATA SET CREATED	New to v2.0

DIDS001_MPI

Data Item UID	Data Item Name	v2.0 Status
DIDS001001	LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER (EXTENDED)	New to v2.0
DIDS001002	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER)	New to v2.0
DIDS001003	NHS NUMBER	Same as v1.0
DIDS001004	NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE	Same as v1.0
DIDS001005	PERSON BIRTH DATE	Same as v1.0
DIDS001006	ETHNIC CATEGORY	Same as v1.0
DIDS001007	ETHNIC CATEGORY 2021	New to v2.0
DIDS001008	PERSON STATED GENDER CODE	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS001009	POSTCODE OF USUAL ADDRESS	Same as v1.0
DIDS001010	GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)	Amendment from v1.0

DIDS002_REFERRAL

Data Item UID	Data Item Name	v2.0 Status
DIDS002001	PATIENT SOURCE SETTING TYPE (DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS002002	REFERRER CODE (DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS002003	TREATMENT FUNCTION CODE (REFERRAL FOR DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	New to v2.0
DIDS002004	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (REFERRING ORGANISATION)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS002005	SERVICE REQUEST PRIORITY TYPE	New to v2.0
DIDS002006	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST DATE	Same as v1.0

DIDS002007	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST TIME	New to v2.0 *
DIDS002008	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST RECEIVED DATE	Same as v1.0
DIDS002009	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST RECEIVED TIME	New to v2.0 *

DIDS003_ACTIVITY

Data Item UID	Data Item Name	v2.0 Status
DIDS003001	RADIOLOGICAL ACCESSION NUMBER	Same as v1.0
DIDS003002	ORGANISATION SITE IDENTIFIER (OF IMAGING)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS003003	CODED PROCEDURE (NICIP)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS003004	CODED PROCEDURE (SNOMED CT)	Amendment from v1.0
DIDS003005	CODED PROCEDURE START TIMESTAMP	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003006	CODED PROCEDURE END TIMESTAMP	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003007	SERVICE REPORT ISSUE TIMESTAMP	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003008	DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CANCER INDICATION CODE	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003009	GENERAL ANAESTHETIC ADMINISTERED INDICATOR	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003010	REFERRER RADIOLOGY PROCEDURE EVALUATION INDICATOR	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003011	DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING ACTIVITY CATEGORY	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003012	DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING WAITING LIST CLOCK START DATE	New to v2.0 *
DIDS003013	PLANNED DIAGNOSTIC DUE DATE	New to v2.0 *

v2.0 Status Definition:

‘Same as v1.0’ means there’s no change from DIDS v1.0 for this data item.

‘Amendment from v1.0’ means the data item existed in v1.0 but has changed in v2.0.

‘New to v2.0’ means the data item exists already in the NHS Data Model and Dictionary but has been added to DIDS v2.0.

‘New to v2.0 *’ means a brand-new data item in the NHS Data Model and Dictionary and DIDS v2.0.

Please note: The data items ETHNIC CATEGORY 2021 and DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CANCER INDICATION CODE are included in DIDS v2.0 as pilot data items.

3.2.2. Replacement of Data Items

3.2.2.1. Diagnostic Test Date

The following data items have been replaced in DIDS v2.0.

Change reason: This will provide more granularity in measuring activity times and the intervals between them; the time interval between request, acquisition and reporting, which was previously only possible in days. CODED PROCEDURE END TIMESTAMP will also define the activity in a month for DIDS v2.0.

DIDS v1.0	DIDS v2.0
DIAGNOSTIC TEST DATE	CODED PROCEDURE START TIMESTAMP and CODED PROCEDURE END TIMESTAMP

Please also see section 3.2.5.

3.2.3. NHS Data Model and Dictionary Maintenance Updates

The data items below are now replaced with updated items, in order to align with other national data sets or standards:

DIDS v1.0	DIDS v2.0
PERSON GENDER CODE CURRENT	PERSON STATED GENDER CODE
GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE CODE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)	GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)
REFERRING ORGANISATION CODE	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (REFERRING ORGANISATION)

IMAGING CODE (SNOMED-CT)	CODED PROCEDURE (CLINICAL TERMINOLOGY)
SITE CODE (OF IMAGING)	ORGANISATION SITE IDENTIFIER (OF IMAGING)

3.2.4. Additions

Change reason: The DIDS001 group shown below includes metadata items which are needed to process the DIDS data files. One header group is included per submission file. These data items already exist in the NHS Data Model and Dictionary and are being added to DIDS v2.0.

UID	Data Item Name
DIDS000001	DATA SET VERSION NUMBER
DIDS000002	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF PROVIDER)
DIDS000003	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF SUBMITTING ORGANISATION)
DIDS000004	PRIMARY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM IN USE
DIDS000005	REPORTING PERIOD START DATE
DIDS000006	REPORTING PERIOD END DATE
DIDS000007	DATE AND TIME DATA SET CREATED

Change reason: The following two data items are being included in DIDS v2.0 to uniquely identify the patient within a submission file and allow for data linkage between other records from the same provider.

UID	Data Item Name
DIDS001001	LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER (EXTENDED)
DIDS001002	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER)

Change reason: ETHNIC CATEGORY 2021 is a pilot item and placeholder. NHS England are awaiting publication of the Unified Information Standard for Protected Characteristics,

which will update the ethnic category codes for use across the NHS. Once published this data item will hold the new ethnic category codes.

UID	Data Item Name
DIDS001007	ETHNIC CATEGORY 2021

The following data items are all new to DIDS v2.0. The requirement ID can be found in the [requirements tracker](#).

UID	Data Item Name	Requirement ID	Change Reason
DIDS002003	TREATMENT FUNCTION CODE (REFERRAL FOR DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	DIDS008	This will allow referral patterns to be analysed by specialised service.
DIDS002005	SERVICE REQUEST PRIORITY TYPE	DIDS004	In conjunction with requirement DIDS005 this will allow better analysis of wait times and request urgency.
DIDS002007	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST TIME	DIDS002	Adding a TIME data item to go along with the already present DATE data item will allow more granular analysis, with the ability to measure time intervals in minutes rather than days.
DIDS002009	DIAGNOSTIC TEST REQUEST RECEIVED TIME	DIDS002	Adding a TIME data item to go along with the already present DATE data item will allow more granular analysis, with the ability to measure time intervals in minutes rather than days.
DIDS003005	CODED PROCEDURE START TIMESTAMP	DIDS002	Used with CODED PROCEDURE END TIMESTAMP this will accurately measure the length of time taken for a procedure.

DIDS003006	CODED PROCEDURE END TIMESTAMP	DIDS002	Used with CODED PROCEDURE START TIMESTAMP this will accurately measure the length of time taken for a procedure. It will also define the activity to be included in a monthly submission for DIDS v2.0.
DIDS003007	SERVICE REPORT ISSUE TIMESTAMP	DIDS002	Replacing the DATE data item with a TIMESTAMP will allow for more granular analysis, with the opportunity to measure the time interval from acquisition to reporting in minutes rather than days.
DIDS003008	DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CANCER INDICATION CODE	DIDS014	This new data item will identify if the imaging showed confirmation of, or a suspected primary cancer or confirmation of or a suspected cancer recurrence. This offers an opportunity to improve the recording of these data which are clinically important outcome measures. This data item is being introduced as a pilot item.
DIDS003009	GENERAL ANAESTHETIC ADMINISTERED INDICATOR	DIDS024	Along with other data items, this indicator will help show complexity in procedures as well as assist in understanding longer waiting times.
DIDS003010	REFERRER RADIOLOGY PROCEDURE EVALUATION INDICATOR	DIDS011	This will improve accuracy of data regarding reporting turnaround times by identifying where a report has been issued by the Radiology Department.

DIDS003011	DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING WAITING LIST CLOCK START DATE	DIDS003	Used with DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING ACTIVITY CATEGORY this will allow accurate measuring of waiting list wait times.
DIDS003012	PLANNED DIAGNOSTIC DUE DATE	DIDS003	Used with DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING ACTIVITY CATEGORY this will allow accurate measuring of waiting list wait times.

3.2.5. Replacements

UID	Data Item Name	Requirement ID	Change Reason
DIDS001008	PERSON STATED GENDER CODE	DIDS015	Replaces PERSON GENDER CODE CURRENT which has been retired from the NHS Data Model and Dictionary.
DIDS001010	GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)	DIDS015	Replaces GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE CODE (PATIENT REGISTRATION) which has been retired from the NHS Data Model and Dictionary.
DIDS002001	PATIENT SOURCE SETTING TYPE (DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	DIDS005	In conjunction with requirement DIDS004 the new national codes will allow better analysis of wait times and request urgency.
DIDS002002	REFERRER CODE (DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING)	DIDS015	New default codes added (replaces REFERRER CODE from DIDS v1.0).

DIDS002005	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (REFERRING ORGANISATION)	DIDS015	Replaces REFERRING ORGANISATION CODE which has been retired from the NHS Data Model and Dictionary.
DIDS003001	ORGANISATION SITE IDENTIFIER (OF IMAGING)	DIDS015	Replaces SITE CODE (OF IMAGING) which has been retired from the NHS Data Model and Dictionary.
DIDS003003	CODED PROCEDURE (NICIP)	DIDS020	As per v1.0 this new data item will carry the NICIP code of the procedure.
DIDS003004	CODED PROCEDURE (SNOMED CT)	DIDS020	As per v1.0 this new data item will carry the SNOMED CT code of the procedure.

3.2.6. Deletions

No data items in DIDS v1.0 have been removed in DIDS v2.0, only replaced as per the Replacement of Data Items, NHS Data Model and Dictionary Maintenance Updates and Replacements sections above.

3.2.7. Maintenance Updates

The Data Design Service maintain a requirements tracker to record ongoing future requests for changes to the data set. These requirements are shared with the NHS England policy teams for ongoing review and potential inclusion in future updates to the data set.

3.2.8. Change Control

The Technical Output Specification (TOS) and the Enhanced Technical Output Specification (ETOS) are new as published documents in this version of DIDS. This Change Specification explains the changes included in DIDS v2.0 which should be read in conjunction with the TOS and the ETOS to fully understand the changes to the data set.

N.B. The latest version of the [Enhanced Technical Output Specification \(ETOS\)](#) is published with other supporting documents on the NHS England DIDS Specifications and Guidance webpage.

3.3. Change to submission method

The National Data Integration Tenant (NDIT) is NHS England's secure platform for collecting and managing national health and care data.

The data platform for DIDS submissions is changing from the DIDS Portal to NDIT for DIDS v2.0. DIDS v2.0 will be one of the first data collections onboarded to NDIT.

Further information on NDIT is available on the [NHS England website](#).

4. Statement of all changes to Implementation Guidance

Due to the change in data items and submission method from v1.0 to v2.0, a number of changes have been made to the implementation guidance to add, amend and remove wording which constitute changes to guidance around how to make DIDS submissions.

The key changes are:

- The transfer of the submission mechanism from the current DIDS Portal to NDIT (including subsequent processing).
- Discontinuing the interim “local codes mapping” service to enforce either a NICIP or SNOMED CT code to be submitted.
- Increasing the timeliness of submissions and use of data by moving to a 3-month window to submit data with no exceptions (following the first 12 months of submissions which will have a 6-month window as standard, to support the sector in the implementation of the other changes).
- Capturing all activity for each patient event in DIDS v2.0 (rather than only the most complex where multiple activities take place as part of the same patient event).
- Publication of TOS (Technical Output Specification) and ETOS (Enhanced Technical Output Specification) documents in line with Data Design Service best practice. This means for example, that details of the validations undertaken are within the ETOS.

Appendix A: Useful web links

1	Health and Social Care Act 2012	Health and Social Care Act 2012
2	DIDS ISN documentation	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/governance/latest-activity/standards-and-collections/dapb1577-diagnostic-imaging-data-set
3	Open Government Licence (OGL)	http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/
4	NHSE Data Collections and Data Sets	NHS England Data Collections and Data Sets webpage
5	DIDS Directions	Diagnostic imaging data set Directions 2016 - NHS England Digital