

NHS All Age Continuing Care Data Set (AACCC Data Set)

Change Specification




Data Alliance Partnership Board

The Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB), 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 Standards Assurance Service (DSAS) and endorsed by the Data Alliance Partnership Sub Board (DAPSB).

This information standard comprises the following documents:

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

An Information Standards Notice (DAPB3085 Amd 43/2022) 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.

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0.1	22/08/2023	First draft.
0.2	04/08/2023	Updates following review by Tom Latham.
0.3	21/11/2023	Updated section 3 with latest changes, and to reflect v1.0 > v2.0 baseline position.
0.4	22/11/2023	Updates following review by Tom Latham
0.5	22/11/2023	Final content for DAPB approval
0.6	01/12/2023	Updated templates
1.0	1/07/2024	Final version created

Reviewers

This document must be reviewed by the following people:

Reviewer name	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
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Glossary of Terms

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

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1. Overview or Definition

This product precisely defines the NHS All Age Continuing Care Data Set (AACC data set) v2.0 information standard. The AACC data set v2.0 supersedes the NHS Continuing Healthcare Patient Level Data Set (CHC PLDS) v1.0 information standard.

The Summary section below describes the standard.

1.1. Summary

Standard	
Standard Number	DAPB3085
Standard Title	NHS All Age Continuing Care Data Set (AACC data set) v2.0
Description	<p>The AACC data set is a patient-level, secondary uses data set which will cover all aspects of NHS AACC, where AACC refers to the following commissioned services, as defined in the National Framework for Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care and the Children and Young People’s Continuing Care National Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Continuing Healthcare (NHS CHC) • NHS-funded Nursing Care (FNC) • Joint packages of health and social care • Children and Young People’s (CYP) Continuing Care <p>The commissioning of these services at the time of the publication of this document is the responsibility of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). Throughout this document these will be referred to as “responsible commissioners”.</p> <p>The AACC data set will capture the end-to-end commissioning of NHS AACC services, from initial checklist through to assessment, to the commissioning and monitoring of individual care packages, regular and ad-hoc care package and eligibility reviews, and eligibility disputes.</p> <p>Prior to the development of the AACC data set v2.0 standard, continuing care data was gathered through the NHS Continuing Healthcare Patient Level Data Set (NHS CHC PLDS) v1.0 standard and through a quarterly aggregated return, both submitted by responsible commissioners. The scope and potential for further development of the aggregate return is limited due to the practical size constraints of a template-based data collection, and the suitability of some data of an aggregated return, hence the development of the CHC PLDS.</p>

Standard	
	<p>The CHC PLDS v1.0 standard is based upon the National Framework for Continuing Healthcare and NHS-Funded Nursing Care, which applies to persons aged 18 or over only, and as such the v1.0 standard is designed to only accept data on patients of this age. The scope of the AACC data set v2.0 standard is expanded to include under 18s receiving continuing care under the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care.</p> <p>This data set is being developed to support three aims of delivering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better Outcomes, 2. Better Experience and 3. Better use of resources, by providing detailed evidence that is currently unavailable. <p>The enhanced data will show where patients are being placed out of area, where care packages are being changed frequently, and other evidence which indicates poor outcomes for the patient, can be identified and addressed.</p> <p>This allows monitoring of patients going through local appeals processes, to ensure these are resolved quickly and highlight responsible commissioners where high numbers of eligibility decisions are being overturned on appeal. The data set allows linkage at patient-level to other data sets, so increased/reduced hospital admissions, medication and other important attributes are visible.</p>
<p>Scope (Applies to)</p>	<p><u>In Scope</u> All activity relating to individuals accessing either NHS Continuing Healthcare, NHS-Funded Nursing Care, or Children and Young People's Continuing Care.</p> <p>Jointly funded packages of health and social care, as defined in the CHC national framework, are included. These are cases that have had a full assessment for CHC using a Decision Support Tool (DST) and were found not eligible for CHC but still had some assessed needs beyond the limits of the local authority which the ICB and local authority agree to jointly fund (exclusive of NHS-funded Care only payments).</p> <p><u>Out of Scope</u> Activities relating to individuals accessing other Healthcare services funded solely by local authorities (e.g. health visiting services) are not in scope of this standard.</p> <p>Any joint funding arrangements for individuals that were not subject to a CHC assessment should not be included.</p> <p><u>Organisations</u> All responsible commissioners of NHS AACC services are required to submit this data.</p>

Standard	<p><u>Professionals</u> The standard primarily, but not exclusively, applies to the following professionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Personnel • Administrative personnel • Information and IT Professionals <p><u>IT Systems</u> The standard predominantly, but not exclusively, relates to clinical systems designed to support NHS CHC, FNC and CYPCC services.</p>
<p>Processing (analysis, publication and data linkage)</p>	<p>The data held in the AACC data set will be processed within NHS England. The processed data will then be made available to analytics teams within NHS England to carry out analysis and produce monthly publications. The data will also be available upon request to other arms-length bodies, such as NHS-funded CHC and CYPCC service providers and commissioners and the research community, to support research and innovation and understand the impact of NHS AACC on patient outcomes and experiences.</p> <p>Requests for data from the AACC data set will be managed through NHS England’s Clear Data Access Tools and the Data Access Request Service (DARS).</p> <p>Information will be published in line with NHS England’s duty to publish under section 260(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, unless it falls within section 260(2) of the Act.</p> <p>Data from the AACC data set may also be linked to data from various other data sets and collections to provide richer information, to develop new publications, and to respond to requests for data and information. More information about the data sets and collections that NHS England hold and that may be used for linkage can be found on the NHS England Data Collections and Data Sets webpage.</p> <p>Data from the AACC data set may also be linked to other data sets held by external bodies including the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities and other researchers.</p>
Release	
Release Number	Amd 43/2022
Release Title	Version 2.0
Description	The AACC data set v2.0 is an end to end, patient level data set that captures data relating to:

Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient details (date of birth, gender, etc.) • NHS AACC eligibility (checklist outcome, DST outcomes, eligibility decision process, referral-to-decision times and backlog, etc). • NHS AACC activity (numbers eligible, newly eligible, no longer eligible etc). • Annual, 3-month and ad hoc reviews. • Local requests for review of eligibility decisions. • NHS AACC care packages (start and end dates, package type, package cost, PHB funding, etc).
Implementation Completion Date	<p><u>System Conformance</u></p> <p>From 1 April 2025, CHC electronic management systems MUST be fully conformant with this standard.</p> <p><u>All responsible commissioners of NHS AACC Services</u></p> <p>From 1 April 2025 all responsible commissioners of NHS funded AACC services MUST be able to collect the information as defined in the Technical Output Specification for local use.</p> <p>From 1 May 2025, all responsible commissioners of NHS funded CHC services MUST commence AACC data set submissions in accordance with this standard.</p>
Full Conformance Date	<p>31 May 2025 - This is the date the first AACC data set v2.0 submission window closes for April 2025 reporting period data.</p> <p>Responsible commissioners must be able to make a valid submission prior to this date, which includes data covering April 2025.</p>

1.2. Supporting documentation

This document should be read in conjunction with the following:

Ref	Title
1.	AACC data set v2.0 Technical Output Specification
2.	AACC data set v2.0 Implementation Guidance
3.	AACC data set v2.0 Change Specification

Please see section 2.5 of the *Implementation Guidance* for a full list and descriptions of each related document and where they can be found.

1.3. Related standards

Reference	Title
DAPB1605	Accessible Information
DCB0129	Clinical Risk Management: its Application in the Manufacture of Health IT Systems
DCB0160	Clinical Risk Management: its Application in the Deployment and Use of Health IT Systems
DCB3058	Compliance with National Data Opt-outs
DAPB0086	Data Security and Protection Toolkit
DAPB0090	Health and Social Care Organisation Reference Data
DCB2117	NHS Continuing Healthcare Data Set (aggregate CHC collection)
ISB 0149	NHS Number
ISB0149-01	NHS Number for General Practice
ISB0149-02	NHS Number for Secondary Care
DCB2094	Sexual Orientation Monitoring

Further details regarding the above standards can be found on [the DAPB Standards and Collections webpage](#). This webpage also contains a list of all current Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB)-approved standards and collections, as well as standards approved by the legacy bodies Data Coordination Board (DCB), Standardisation Committee for Care Information (SCCI) and Information Standards Board (ISB).

2. Background and justification for release

The current NHS CHC PLDS v1.0 applies to, and is used by, a wide range of stakeholders for various secondary uses purposes. As such, the data set is regularly reviewed and updated in response to changes in policy and to ensure that stakeholders' requirements continue to be met with minimal burden for data submitters.

The Data Set Development Service (DSDS) maintain the content of the data set through consultation with these stakeholders, which include the All Age Continuing Care Data Team and various other sections of NHS England, the Department of Health and Social Care, the Care Quality Commission, service providers, IT system suppliers and commissioners.

Changes are required to the CHC PLDS v1.0 to:

- expand its scope to include continuing care for persons under the age of 18, as well packages of care jointly funded by Integrated Care Boards and Local Authorities.
- enable tracking of regular eligibility reviews
- further align the data set with national frameworks
- reduce burden on data providers

The data set is renamed the NHS All Age Continuing Care Data Set (AACC data set) to reflect the inclusion of under 18s.

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

3. Detail of changes

This section provides additional detail in relation to the individual changes made to the data set in support of the high-level drivers. The Enhanced Technical Output Specification (ETOS) fully defines the individual changes applied to the data set, with each change logged in the 'Change Control' tab.

3.1. Change to data linkage of the Review table

The direct relationship between the Review table and the Care Package table, represented in CHC PLDS v1.0 by the presence of Care Package Identifier in the Review table, is removed in AACC data set v2.0.

The Review table is instead linked to the Referral, Assessment and Outcome table. This relationship is represented in the AACC data set v2.0 by the presence of the Service Request Identifier in the Review table, enabling linkage between the two tables.

This change was made after it was discovered that a key numerator, eligibility changes following a review, could not be derived from data submitted under the CHC PLDS v1.0 table and item design. In addition, Reviews can relate to multiple Care Packages or the Referral as a whole, so linkage of the Review table to the Referral, Assessment and Outcome table better reflects how AACC services operate.

3.2. Data item amendments

This section lists amendments to the data items from the NHS CHC PLDS v1.0 Technical Output Specification that were made to produce the AACC data set v2.0 Technical Output Specification.

Change to data items are made based on updates to the scope of the v1.0 data set, and after having consulted with providers and consumers of data, as well as system suppliers.

3.2.1. Changes to naming conventions and terminology

A number of changes have been made to AACC data set v2.0 to reflect the name change from NHS CHC v1.0. These include:

- Data item names suffixed with the data set name ‘NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE’ are now suffixed with ‘NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE’.
- XML schema element names that contained the abbreviation “CHC”, where “CHC” was referring to the data set name, have been updated to “AACC”.
- Some item names have been updated to use the term “service request” in place of “referral or notification” to reflect the common reference to a record in this table as a “service request”.

3.2.2. Itemised changes

A number of data items from NHS CHC PLDS v1.0, as well as national codes used in existing data items, have been removed from AACC data set v2.0. These are set out below along with justification for their removal. All the new additions, removals and amendments are listed in below with changes and justification.

3.2.2.1. Data items added in v2.0

The items below are additions to the AACC data set v2.0 that were not included in the CHC PLDS v1.0.

V2.0 UID	V2.0 Data Element	Table	Reason
C000080	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF ICB PLACE)	CHC000 Header	Added to account for the future retirement of interim sub-ICB location codes, which are expected to be replaced with ICB Place codes relating to ICB constituent areas. This item is a pilot item and will not be required for submission until the relevant ODS codes are in place and in general use by submitters.

V2.0 UID	V2.0 Data Element	Table	Reason
C001120	DISABILITY INDICATOR	CHC001 MPI	Disability is one of the protected characteristics and a disability question already exists on the CHC national tools (e.g. checklist) in the equality section ("Do you have a disability as defined by the Equalities Act 2010?") but was not previously collected in the version 1.0 of the data set.
C001130	ETHNIC CATEGORY 2021	CHC001 MPI	Added as a pilot item to enable the latest Ethnic Category codes to be captured once these are implemented across the NHS.
C101390	NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE DATE AGREED ELIGIBLE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT REVIEW (CURRENT YEAR CASES ONLY)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	Along with the 'Independent review funding end date', this data item provides a key date event to enable the counting of cases which become eligible via independent review in top line AACC activity.
C101410	NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE INDEPENDENT REVIEW FUNDING END DATE (CURRENT YEAR CASES ONLY)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	Along with the 'Date agreed eligible following independent review', this data item provides a key date event to enable the counting of cases which become eligible via independent review in top line AACC activity.
C101430	RESPONSIBLE COMMISSIONER SERVICE REQUEST OUTCOME DATE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	To capture the date a referral or checklist is verified by the ICB, or the date a Fast Track tool is accepted. This is key for capturing the date of FNC eligibility which occurs at the screening stage.
C101440	DISPUTE STAGE RESOLVED (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	To capture additional information about the stage at which an inter-agency dispute is resolved (for formal disputes following an initial assessment only) for analysis purposes.

3.2.2.2. Data items removed in v2.0

The items below were included in the CHC PLDS v1.0, but have been removed completely from the AACC data set v2.0 as they were surplus to requirements.

V2.0 UID	V2.0 Data Element	Table	Reason
C102070	ORGANISATION NAME (HEALTH CARE PROVIDER)	CHC102 CarePackage	This data item is not being reliably completed in v1.0 and is therefore of limited use for analysis purposes. All health care providers should have an organisation identifier, so this data item is not needed.
C102080	POSTCODE OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDER	CHC102 CarePackage	This data item is not being reliably completed in v1.0 and is therefore of limited use for analysis purposes. All health care providers should have an organisation identifier, so this data item is not needed.
C103050	CARE PACKAGE REVIEW ELIGIBILITY OUTCOME (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC103 Review	This is not always determined in the Review itself. Now captured at the referral level.
C103060	CARE PACKAGE ELIGIBILITY STATUS CHANGE DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC103 Review	This is not always determined in the Review itself. Now captured at the referral level.
C103070	CARE PACKAGE NEXT PLANNED REVIEW DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC103 Review	This is not always determined in the Review itself. Now captured at the referral level.

3.2.2.3. Consolidated items

The items listed below were included in the CHC PLDS v1.0, but have been removed from the AACC data set v2.0 because their values can be determined from other items. These are referred to as “consolidated items”. The v1.0 data item has effectively been replaced by a new data item in v2.0, and these are listed in the table below.

V1.0 UID	V1.0 Data Element	Table	New/consolidated item in v2.0
C101060	SOURCE OF REFERRAL FOR NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101460 - REFERRING ORGANISATION TYPE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101090	NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE FAST TRACK PATHWAY TOOL COMPLETED DATE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101080 - NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE CHECKLIST OR FAST TRACK REFERRAL COMPLETED DATE
C101110	APPROPRIATE CLINICAL STAFF GROUP COMPLETING NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE FAST TRACK PATHWAY TOOL	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101070 - REFERRING CARE PROFESSIONAL TYPE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101150	REFERRAL REQUEST ACCEPTED DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE FAST TRACK)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101040 - SERVICE REQUEST RECEIVED DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101240	START DATE AGREED (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE PREVIOUSLY UNASSESSED PERIOD OF CARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101330 - FUNDING START DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101250	END DATE AGREED (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE PREVIOUSLY UNASSESSED PERIOD OF CARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101340 - FUNDING END DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101260	NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE REVIEW REQUEST RECEIVED DATE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101040 - SERVICE REQUEST RECEIVED DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)

V1.0 UID	V1.0 Data Element	Table	New/consolidated item in v2.0
C101290	RESPONSIBLE COMMISSIONER REVIEW ELIGIBILITY DECISION OUTCOME (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101200 - ASSESSMENT DECISION OUTCOME (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101300	LOCAL RESOLUTION START DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101330 - FUNDING START DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101310	LOCAL RESOLUTION END DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101340 - FUNDING END DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101320	LOCAL RESOLUTION ELIGIBILITY DECISION OUTCOME COMMUNICATED TO PATIENT DATE (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101210 - ELIGIBILITY DECISION OUTCOME COMMUNICATED TO PATIENT DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101360	NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE PREVIOUSLY UNASSESSED PERIOD OF CARE DECISION MADE DATE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101190 - ASSESSMENT DECISION DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C101370	NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE PREVIOUSLY UNASSESSED PERIOD OF CARE DECISION OUTCOME	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101200 - ASSESSMENT DECISION OUTCOME (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)

V1.0 UID	V1.0 Data Element	Table	New/consolidated item in v2.0
C101380	NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE PREVIOUSLY UNASSESSED PERIOD OF CARE ELIGIBILITY DECISION COMMUNICATED TO REQUESTER DATE	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C101210 - ELIGIBILITY DECISION OUTCOME COMMUNICATED TO PATIENT DATE (NHS ALL AGE CONTINUING CARE)
C103010	CARE PACKAGE IDENTIFIER (NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE)	CHC101 RefAssess Outcome	C103080 - SERVICE REQUEST IDENTIFIER

3.3. Maintenance updates

DSDS 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.

3.4. Change control

The Enhanced Technical Output Specification fully defines the individual changes applied to the data set, with each change logged in the 'Summary of Changes' tab. This Change Specification therefore represents a summary of changes included in the AACC data set v2.0 which should be read in conjunction with the 'Summary of Changes' tab in the Enhanced Technical Output Specification to fully understand the changes to the data set. The latest version of the Enhanced Technical Output Specification, which also includes the validations and derivations applied to the data on landing, is published with other supporting documents on [the NHS England webpage](#).