



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

Core dataset Q

Change request

DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021

About Public Health England

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. We do this through world-leading science, research, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. We are an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care, and a distinct delivery organisation with operational autonomy. We provide government, local government, the NHS, Parliament, industry and the public with evidence-based professional, scientific and delivery expertise and support.

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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 this 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 approved by the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB).

This information standard comprises:

- Specification
- Change Request
- Implementation Guide

An Information Standards Notice (DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021) has been issued as a notification of use and implementation timescales. Please read this alongside the documents for the standard.

The controlled versions of these documents can be found on the [NHS Digital 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: 30 September 2021

Update: 28 June 2022

Following publication on 30 September 2021, the need for corrections to the data set was identified and [a Corrigendum has been issued](#). Note that there is no impact on either the published Requirements Specification or the Implementation Guidance. However, [an updated Change Request \(this document\) and updated Technical Output Specifications have been issued](#) and should be read in conjunction with the Corrigendum.

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Adult	Clients are deemed to be adults if they are aged 18 or over at presentation (triage).
Attributor	In NDTMS, the clients' two initials, date of birth, gender and local authority of residence are collectively used to identify an individual. Records relating to individual clients are isolated and linked on the basis of the attributor. This minimises the extent of multiple counting within the datasets.
Client	An adult or young person drug or alcohol user, presenting for treatment
DET	The Data Entry Tool (DET) is a system provided by NDTMS for treatment providers that do not have a clinical management system that is capable of producing NDTMS data.
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). DHSC is a ministerial department, supported by a number of agencies and partner organisations.
Episode	A period of contact with a treatment provider, from referral date to discharge incorporating a set of interventions with a specific care plan. A client may attend one or more interventions/modalities of treatment during the same episode of treatment. A client may also have more than one episode in a year. A client is considered to have been in contact during the year (and hence included in statistics) if any part of an episode occurs within the year. An episode occurs at a single NDTMS agency. A client may perceive his/her treatment as a single pathway of care made up of continuous treatment, however for statistical and performance reasons, NDTMS requires that the pathway of care be broken up into individual episodes of care by provider.
NDTMS	The National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) captures data about structured drug and alcohol treatment in the community and in secure settings (including secure children's homes and IRCs). NDTMS also collect the Criminal Justice Interventions Team (CJIT) dataset which relates to pathways into treatment for criminal justice clients.
NDTMS V2	NDTMS V2 is an online portal provided and maintained for providers to use to submit their NDTMS data. Some providers who do not have an NDTMS compliant third party software system may also use the NDTMS V2 inbuilt data entry tool (DET) for their NDTMS data entry.
OHP	The Office for Health Promotion (OHP) will sit within the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), and will lead work across government to improve and level up the health of the nation by tackling obesity, improving mental health and promoting physical activity.
Public Health England (PHE)	Executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) that exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities.
Setting	The setting in which an intervention takes place, for example community, home or residential unit. The same client could be receiving the same intervention in more than one setting within the same episode.
Software supplier	Any third party case file management system provider with the functionality to output a csv file compliant with NDTMS data submission requirement.

	For full details see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/software-suppliers-for-the-national-drug-treatment-monitoring-system
Structured treatment	<p>Structured treatment follows assessment and is delivered according to a care plan, with clear goals, which are regularly reviewed with the client. It may comprise a number of concurrent or sequential specialist drug and alcohol focused interventions. It addresses multiple or more severe needs that would not be expected to respond, or have already not responded, to less intensive or non-specialist interventions alone. Structured treatment requires a comprehensive assessment of need, and is delivered according to a recovery care plan, which is regularly reviewed with the client. The plan sets out clear goals which include change to substance use, and how other client needs will be addressed in one or more of the following domains: physical and psychological health; criminal involvement and offending; and social functioning.</p> <p>All interventions must be delivered by appropriately trained and competent staff, within supervision and clinical governance structures. Structured drug and alcohol treatment provides integrated access to specialist medical assessment and intervention, and works jointly with mental and physical health services, and safeguarding and family support services according to need.</p> <p>In addition to pharmacological and psychosocial interventions provided as part of the key working or case management function of structured treatment, service users should be provided with the following as appropriate: harm reduction advice and information; BBV screening and immunisation; advocacy; appropriate access and referral to healthcare and health monitoring; and crisis and risk management.</p> <p>For a full definition of structured treatment see the NDTMS adult drug and alcohol treatment business definitions, appendix A.</p>
Treatment journey	A new treatment journey is defined if an individual's latest presentation fulfils all of the following criteria; an earlier episode is not still open, the discharge date in an earlier episode is not after the discharge date in a later episode and the difference between modality start date in the later episode and the discharge date in the earlier episode is greater than 3 weeks (21 days).
Treatment provider	A provider of services for the treatment of drug or alcohol misuse. The agency may be statutory (for example NHS) or non-statutory (for example third sector) and be providing structured or non-structured treatment. Each agency has an NDTMS agency code and there may be several NDTMS agencies at one location as per the requirements of local performance/contract management.
Young people	Clients are deemed to be young people if they are aged under 18 at triage. There is no distinction between those with a primary problem substance of drugs (such as cannabis) or alcohol; they are all classified as in substance misuse treatment.

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Executive summary

This is a change to the National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System dataset and introduces some amendments to the current dataset (CDS-P).

PHE carried out a public consultation on new data items for possible inclusion in the NDTMS core dataset Q between May and June 2021. Some changes were in relation to a specific setting, such as prison or the community and some were in relation to a specific group of clients, such as those receiving treatment for alcohol or young people. Following consultation all proposed changes which received 70% support were submitted to the NDTMS programme board for approval and are subsequently being implemented in April 2022. The new dataset is termed core dataset Q (CDS-Q).

Changes include:

- data items being removed
- data items being added
- existing data items being amended
- existing data items being added to additional datasets
- reference data being added
- reference data being removed
- reference data being amended

Changes will affect the following datasets:

- community adult
- community young people
- secure setting adult
- secure setting young people

Overview

Summary

Standard																																								
Standard number	DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021																																							
Standard title	National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)																																							
Description	<p>The NDTMS dataset collates information on drug and alcohol treatment in England.</p> <p>NDTMS data helps drug and alcohol treatment providers and commissioners demonstrate the outcomes treatment achieves and in doing so aids accountability for the money invested in it. NDTMS is a national standard and is applicable to young people and adults within community and secure setting based treatment providers.</p> <p>NDTMS data are used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide measurements that support the outcome and recovery focus of the government’s drug strategy • provide information which can be used to monitor how effective drug and alcohol treatment services are and help to plan and develop services that better meet local needs • produce statistics and support research about drug and alcohol use and treatment • provide measures to support the Public Health Outcomes Framework 																																							
About this change	<p>In order to align current business needs and clinical practice, and to support data quality, the following various changes have been made to the NDTMS datasets.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="4">Dataset¹</th> </tr> <tr> <th>AD</th> <th>YP</th> <th>SA</th> <th>SY</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New data items</td> <td>25</td> <td>20</td> <td>11</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Existing data items added to additional dataset</td> <td>0</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deleted data items</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Difference</td> <td>+20</td> <td>+18</td> <td>+8</td> <td>+5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Data item name changes</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fields with reference data changes</td> <td>15</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Dataset ¹				AD	YP	SA	SY	New data items	25	20	11	4	Existing data items added to additional dataset	0	4	0	3	Deleted data items	5	6	3	2	Difference	+20	+18	+8	+5	Data item name changes	5	6	4	5	Fields with reference data changes	15	13	9	10
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¹ See Appendix A for key

Applies to	<p>All drug and alcohol treatment providers who are delivering structured treatment, including adult and young people's services as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community services including NHS, third sector and private providers • residential rehab and detox centres • primary care • inpatient units • secure setting services including prisons, Young Offender Institutions (YOIs), Secure Training Centres (STCs), Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs), secure children's homes and welfare only homes <p>The data outputs will be used by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • treatment providers including third sector, NHS and private providers • treatment commissioners including local authority commissioners and NHS England commissioners • Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)
Implementation start and completion date	<p>All the included changes were agreed by the NDTMS board and publicly consulted on. Stakeholders are informed of the consultation outcome prior to a 6 month implementation period which will include NDTMS training provided by regional teams and updated core documentation.</p> <p>Data collection will start on 1 April 2022.</p>
Release	
Release number	Amd 50/2021
Release title	Core dataset (CDS) Q
Publication date	30 September 2021

Supporting documents

The change request should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

Title
CSV file format (for NDTMS data submission files)
NDTMS technical definitions
NDTMS reference data
Adult drug and alcohol misuse treatment business definitions
Young people's drug and alcohol treatment business definitions
Secure setting adult drug and alcohol treatment business definitions
Secure setting young people's drug and alcohol treatment business definitions
NDTMS patient information leaflet

NDTMS consent and confidentiality guidance
Data sharing protocol between drug and alcohol treatment services and PHE
Consent to NDTMS
DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021 Specification
DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021 Implementation Guidance
DAPB0107 Amd 50/2021 Information Standards Notice

Change specification

The National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System is a complex dataset which requires amendments to meet current clinical practice and reporting requirements.

New data items have been added following an extensive stakeholder and public consultation. The **consultation** ran for 4 weeks between 14th May and 11th June 2021. The survey contained 27 questions. Some were in relation to a specific setting, such as prison or the community and some were in relation to a specific group of clients, such as those receiving treatment for alcohol or young people. Respondents were asked to consider the burden of collecting each of the new data items, alongside the potential benefits of their inclusion in the various reports, Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) and other toolkits produced to support the improvement of drug and alcohol treatment outcomes. Details of the consultation process were provided to the NDTMS Board for approval.

The Individual Placement and Support (IPS) **trial** in the drug and alcohol sector was piloted from 1 April 2018. The pilot has now ended and will be rolled out more extensively. A subset of the existing IPS dataset (which was only applicable to adult community providers partaking in the IPS trial) will be merged with the main NDTMS dataset for both adult community and young people community providers. The data items will only be applicable to those providers providing IPS and will comprise:

- Client participating in IPS
- Consent for IPS data sharing
- National Insurance number
- Full post code of residence
- IPS intervention

There are several new data items to enhance the reporting of vulnerable groups, including:

- Current housing situation and threat of homelessness
- Domestic abuse
- Engaged in sex work
- Expanded ethnicity reference data
- YP disability

Some data items have been removed, including:

- TOP Stage
- Combining 2 questions in to 1 where applicable.

There will be no change to the structure of the dataset.

New data items

The following table lists all the new data items that are being added in CDS-Q and the dataset/s to which each item applies. Full details can be found in the [NDTMS technical specification](#), and on the NDTMS pages on [gov.uk](#).

Data Item	Level ^{2,3}	AD	YP	SA	SY ³
What is the client's current housing situation? / What was the client's housing situation in the 28 days prior to custody?	Episode	√		√	
What is the client's current housing situation?	CIR	√			
Is the client threatened with homelessness in the next 56 days (8 weeks)?	Episode	√	√		
Is the client threatened with homelessness in the next 56 days (8 weeks)?	CIR	√	√		
Is the client threatened with homelessness in the 56 days (8 weeks) following exit from secure estate?	Episode			√	√
Has the client ever been the victim of domestic abuse?	Episode	√	√	√	√
Has the client ever abused someone close to them?	Episode	√	√	√	√
Has the client ever been the victim of domestic abuse?	CIR	√	√		
Has the client ever abused someone close to them?	CIR	√	√		
Client provided with domestic abuse support for victim/survivor.	SIR	√	√		
Client provided with domestic abuse support for perpetrator.	SIR	√	√		
Proportion of face-to-face appointments with keyworker.	SIR	√	√		
Treatment being received for the client's mental health (2)	Episode	√	√		
Treatment being received for the client's mental health (3)	Episode	√	√		

² The datasets are split into different sections. 'Level' refers to the section of the dataset within which the change occurs.

³ See Appendix A for key

Data Item	Level ^{2,3}	AD	YP	SA	SY ³
Treatment being received for the client's mental health (2)	CIR	√	√		
Treatment being received for the client's mental health (3)	CIR	√	√		
Has the client ever received money or goods in exchange for sex?	Episode	√		√	
HIV latest test date	Episode	√		√	
HIV latest test date	CIR	√			
YP offered a screen for sexually transmitted infections (including chlamydia)	Episode		√		
YP offered a screen for sexually transmitted infections (including chlamydia)	CIR		√		
Has the client been provided with Reconnect support?	Episode			√	√
Opioid maintenance – Buprenorphine depot injection (eg Buvidal)	SIR			√	
Opioid reduction – Buprenorphine depot injection (eg Buvidal)	SIR			√	
Days in volunteering or unpaid structured work placement	TOP	√		√	
How often has the client had 6 or more units if female, or 8 or more if male, on a single occasion in the last 28 days?	TOP	√		√	
Client participating in IPS	Client	√	√		
National Insurance number (IPS)	Client	√	√		
Consent for IPS	Episode	√	√		
Full postcode of residence (IPS)	Episode	√	√		
IPS (Individual Placement & Support)	Intervention	√	√		
Total number of new fields being added to each dataset		25	20	11	4

Existing data items added to additional datasets

The following table lists the existing data items that are being applied to additional datasets in CDS-Q (for example, the field is already in the adult community dataset and will also apply to the young people community dataset from April 2022).

Data Item	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Referral date to service	Episode		√		
Disability (1)	Episode		√		√
Disability (2)	Episode		√		√
Disability (3)	Episode		√		√
Total number of existing data items being added to each dataset		0	4	0	3

2.3 Deleted data items

The following table lists all the data items that are being removed from the datasets in CDS-Q.

Data Item	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Accommodation need	Episode	√			
YP ever been affected by domestic abuse	Episode		√		√
Domestic abuse/violence support	SIR	√			
YP offered a screen for sexually transmitted infections	Episode		√		
YP offered a screen for sexually transmitted infections	CIR		√		
YP offered a screen for chlamydia	Episode		√		
YP offered a screen for chlamydia	CIR		√		
Treatment stage	TOP/YPOR	√	√	√	√
Days in volunteering	TOP	√		√	
Days in unpaid structured work placement	TOP	√		√	
Total number of data items deleted from each dataset		5	6	3	2

Data item name changes

The following table lists all the fields where an existing data item is being changed, and the details of what that change is.

Data item – old question	Data item – new question	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Client sex at registration of birth	Client stated sex	Client	√	√	√	√
Use of New Psychoactive Substances during treatment	Use of Psychoactive Substances during treatment	Episode			√	
New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	Psychoactive substances (PS)	YPOR		√		√
Age substance first used: new psychoactive substances (NPS)	Age substance first used: psychoactive substances (PS)	YPOR		√		√
Do any of these children live with the client?	If client has parental responsibility, do any of these children live with the client?	Episode	√	√	√	√
Do any of these children live with the client?	If client has parental responsibility, do any of these children live with the client?	CIR	√	√		
What help are the client's children/children living with the client receiving? (1) (2) (3)	If client has parental responsibility and/or children living with them, what help are the children receiving? (1) (2) (3)	Episode	√	√	√	√
What help are the client's children/children living with the client receiving? (1) (2) (3)	If client has parental responsibility and/or children living with them, what help are the children receiving? (1) (2) (3)	CIR	√	√		
Total number of data item name changes for each dataset			5	6	4	5

Reference data changes

The following table lists all the changes that are being made to reference data items. For full details of reference data for CDS-Q please see the [technical specification](#) or the [NDTMS reference data](#) document.

Data item	Change	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Ethnicity	Add: 'White Gypsy or Roma or Traveller or Irish Traveller'	Episode	√	√	√	√
What help are client's children and/or children living with client receiving? (1) (2) (3)	Expand/add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early help (family support) • Child in need (LA service) • Has a child protection plan (LA service) • Looked after child (LA service) • Other relevant child or family support service • Not known 	Episode and CIR	√	√	√	√
Hep C test result PCR (RNA) status	Add: 'Negative (cleared naturally)'	Episode and CIR	√			
Has the client been issued with naloxone	Add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – not yet issued • No – offered and refused 	Episode and CIR	√			
Referral source	Add: 'Children and Family Services'	Episode	√			
Referral source	Rename: 'Social Services' to 'Adult Social Care Services'	Episode	√			
Intervention setting	Add: 'Primary Care'	Intervention		√		
Problem substance	Remove: 'Drug NOS'	Episode	√	√	√	√
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS – predominantly stimulant' to 'PS – predominantly stimulant'	Episode	√	√	√	√

Data item	Change	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS – predominantly hallucinogenic' to 'PS – predominantly hallucinogenic'	Episode	√	√	√	√
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS – predominantly dissociative' to 'PS – predominantly dissociative'	Episode	√	√	√	√
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS – predominantly sedative or opioid' to 'PS – predominantly sedative or opioid'	Episode	√	√	√	√
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS – predominantly cannabis' to 'PS – predominantly cannabis'	Episode	√	√	√	√
Problem substance	Rename 'NPS Other – effects different to available classifications or not stated' to 'PS Other – effects different to available classifications or not stated'	Episode	√	√	√	√
YP registered with GP	Changed: 'Not known' to 'Unknown'	Episode		√		
Referral on release status	Changed 'Referred to Youth Offending Team (YOT) and treatment provider' to 'Referred to Youth Offending Team (YOT) and structured treatment provider'	Episode				√

Data item	Change	Level	AD	YP	SA	SY
Intervention	Add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADDER support • Accelerator support 	Intervention	√	√		
Intervention	Add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSDATG engagement 	Intervention	√	√		
Total number of fields with reference data changes in each dataset			15	13	9	10

Appendix A: key to NDTMS datasets

AD = adult drug community dataset

YP = young people community dataset

SA = secure setting adult dataset

SY = secure setting young people dataset

Episode = A period of contact with a treatment provider, from referral date to discharge incorporating a set of interventions with a specific care plan.

Intervention = high-level treatment received by client

SIR (Sub-intervention) = specific treatment received by client

CIR (Client Information Review) = contains updateable information for some of the episode level questions, including parental status and children information, BBV information and mental health. CIR questions should be reviewed with the client every 6 months and a full CIR should be returned to NDTMS. One should also be completed on discharge.

TOP (Treatment Outcome Profile) = A set of questions completed with clients at treatment start, every 6 months during treatment and at discharge to review their substance use behaviour and activity in the last 28 days.

YPOR (Young People's Outcome Record) = A set of questions completed with clients at treatment start and at discharge to review their substance use behaviour and activity in the last 28 days.