

## Information Standards Notice – New

Acting on behalf of the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) which holds delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Data Alliance Partnership Sub Board (DAPSB) has approved a new information standard for publication under section 250 of the Health and Social Act 2012.

Standard details	
DAPB unique identifier	DAPB4017 Amd 44/2020
Name	Pathology Test and Results Standard, Version 1.0
Approval date	10 August 2021
Publication date	17 August 2021
Standard definition	
Description	<p>This information standard comprises 3 inter-related specifications, aligned with clinical, commissioning and patient needs, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help standardise information exchanged between clinical pathology laboratories and laboratory information systems</li> <li>• enable the sharing of pathology results across the NHS, and across care settings and organisational boundaries.</li> </ul> <p>These specifications are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Unified Test List (UTL)</b> a national catalogue of pathology test requests and results, using SNOMED CT</li> <li><b>2. Units of Measures (UoM)</b> a national set of standardised units of measure, using The Unified Code for Units of Measure (UCUM), aligned with the UTL and HL7 FHIR</li> <li><b>3. Message Specification</b> a message specification, using Health Level 7 (HL7) Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR).</li> </ol> <p>These specifications are designed to support a generic pathology test request and test report cycle process, but have been further developed to exchange:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high volume haematology and clinical biochemistry (also known as chemical pathology) information</li> <li>• pathology domain information currently exchanged via EDIFACT and the Pathology Bounded Code List (PBCL)</li> <li>• COVID-19 pathology test and result information.</li> </ul> <p>Following an agile approach, they will be extended to meet additional user needs for all The Royal College of Pathologists' <a href="#">specialist areas</a>.</p>

Scope (Health and Social Care Act 2012)	Health Services, NHS Services, Adult Social Care
Applies to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all pathology laboratories (both NHS and independent sector)</li> <li>all users of laboratory information management systems</li> <li>all recipients, and users, of pathology data in primary, secondary, community and social care settings</li> <li>all health and care providers using pathology services</li> <li>all commissioners of pathology services</li> </ul>
Impacts upon	Implementation of this information standard impacts all health and care IT systems suppliers providing systems to the above providers; suppliers should work with their customers to determine necessary changes.
Legal authority	This information standard is published under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
Link to further documentation	<p>The Requirements Specification and Implementation Guidance are available on the NHS Digital website:  <a href="http://www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb4017">www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb4017</a></p> <p>Further guidance is published by NHS Digital:  <a href="https://nhsengland.kahootz.com/connect.ti/PathologyandDiagnostics/groupHome">https://nhsengland.kahootz.com/connect.ti/PathologyandDiagnostics/groupHome</a></p>
<b>Contacts</b>	
Sponsor	Simon Eccles, Chief Clinical Information Officer for Health and Care, NHSX
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Help Desk	<a href="mailto:pathologyanddiagnostics@nhs.net">pathologyanddiagnostics@nhs.net</a>
<b>Dates</b>	
Implementation and conformance dates	<p>Implementation of this information standard has an immediate start date; any updates in the pathology domain must be made with regard to this standard.</p> <p>Given the wide-ranging impact of the standard, no final conformance date is set as much depends on system maturity, supplier release timetables and capacity within the NHS to make the required changes.</p> <p>Implementation will be monitored by NHSX and NHS Digital, and any move to a firm conformance date will be confirmed by the DAPB.</p>
Post Implementation Review date	31 August 2022

The controlled version of this Information Standards Notice is published on the NHS Digital website: [www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns](http://www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns)

**NOTE:** From 1 February 2023, Delen - the information sharing and collaboration platform for Terminology and Classifications products - has migrated from <https://hscic.kahootz.com> to <https://nhsengland.kahootz.com>. URLs in this document have been corrected to ensure continuity of access. No other changes have been made.