

Addendum

Standard	DCB0028 Treatment Function and Main Specialty Standard
Release	Amd 45/2019 Version 2.0
Date of ISCE publication	2 April 2020
Date of Addendum	6 January 2021

Background

The latest release of the Treatment Function and Main Specialty Standard, to be implemented by 1 April 2021, was [published on 2 April 2020](#).

Since then, in consultation with end users, the need for a critical change to the standard has been identified, in response to COVID-19 activity. A summary is provided below.

Due to the criticality of the change, it has been decided to roll this one new code into the current release of the standard rather than wait for the next update which is unlikely to take place before 2023. This will allow activity taking place in Post-COVID-19 Syndrome Services to be appropriately reported and funded at the earliest possible opportunity.

Note that the following documents have been [updated and published](#) alongside this addendum:

- Code List Specification
- NHS Data Model and Dictionary Change Request.

Summary

An update is required to add a new Treatment Function Code (TFC) to represent Post-COVID-19 Syndrome Services which are being established in outpatient settings in line with [requirements set by NHS England and NHS Improvement](#).

These services are designed for patients experiencing long-term health effects following COVID-19 infection (sometimes known as “long COVID”).

The numbering and wording for the new TFC are:

- TFC number: 348
 - *fits under the ‘Medical Services’ heading and is as close as possible to the Main Specialty Code for Respiratory Medicine (340).*
- TFC name: Post-COVID-19 Syndrome Service
 - *to match the wording used in the published NICE guideline.*
- TFC description: Multidisciplinary SERVICES for patients experiencing long-term health effects following COVID-19 infection, whether or not this was diagnosed at the time of acute illness or the patient was initially asymptomatic. Post-COVID-19 syndrome has also been known as ‘long COVID’.

Timescales

The new TFC is being incorporated into the current version of the Treatment Function and Main Specialty Standard as this is still in its implementation phase, with implementation by April 2021.

From April 2021 it will be possible to submit this TFC as part of the Commissioning Data Sets through the use of an updated XML schema. This schema, to support all the TFC changes notified in April 2020 and this new TFC, is still in development and subscribers will be notified when this is available.

SNOMED CT

As a consequence of this new TFC, there is a need to author a new SNOMED CT concept to represent this new service type for record metadata purposes. The code will be included in the relevant TFC refset, 1323341000000102 |Treatment Function services for England simple reference set (foundation metadata concept). It is anticipated that this will be included in the January 2021 SNOMED CT release.