

Change Specification for Patient-level information and costing systems (PLICS) Ambulance data set

DAPB4001 Amd 17/2021 (previously DCB2123-02 Amd 38/2020)
Change Specification v1.0



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Overview

Data Alliance Partnership Board

1. This information standard (DAPB4001 Amd17/2021, previously DCB2123-02) has been approved for publication by the Department of Health under [section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012](#). (the Act).
2. Assurance that this information standard meets the requirements of the Act and is appropriate for the use set out in the specification document was originally provided by the Data Coordination Board (DCB), a sub-group of the Data Delivery Board in October 2020. The Data Alliance Partnership Board which was established in early 2021 has provided the assurance and approval for this uplift for publication in August 2021.
3. This information standard comprises the following documents:
 - Change Specification
 - Specification
 - Implementation Guidance.
4. An Information Standards Notice has been issued as a notification of use and implementation timescales. Please read this alongside the documents for the standard.
5. 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.
6. Date of publication: 13 August 2021

Summary

7. This document describes the changes associated with this release of the Information Standard. Details on the purpose, background and context of the standard are shown in the supporting Specification.

Standard	
Standard Number	DAPB4001 Amd 17/2021 (previously DCB2123-02 Amd 38/2020)
Standard Title	Patient-level information and costing systems (PLICS) Ambulance Data Set
Description	<p>Patient-Level Costing (PLC) is being rolled out across all sectors and services from 2018/19 to 2021/22.</p> <p>This version of the standard covers the financial year 2020/21, for which PLC data is being collected for ambulance services from all designated ambulance providers. This information standard covers the creation of the PLC (Ambulance) Data Set (PLCAMDS). This contains ambulance activity (such as call handling, dispatch, time on scene and patient handover) and associated financial data for all incidents going through 999 call centres or dispatch centres within England.</p>
Applies to	Designated providers as published in Annex A Section 4 of the Requirements Specification for Patient Level Information and Costing Systems (PLICS) Mandatory Collections continued implementation and associated Mandatory Request .
Services covered	<p>Providers are asked to submit activity and financial data for all incidents going through 999 call centres or dispatch centres.</p> <p>An incident within PLICS is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a discrete event where one or more responses are dispatched • clinical advice is given over the phone • an information only or no treatment required call. <p>For the purposes of PLICS Ambulance, the scope of an incident includes 'hear and treat', 'see and treat', 'see and convey' and 'other' incident currencies.</p>

	<p>Alongside in-house provision the collection includes the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • activity completed by third-party providers • activity completed by hazardous area response teams (HART) • medical emergency response incident teams (MERIT) • healthcare professional responses • air ambulance responses (staff only). <p>The following services are out of scope of the collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other patient-facing services, e.g. GP out-of-hours, patient transport service and NHS 111 • HART non-responding time. <p>The collection year begins on 1 April 2020 and ends on 31 March 2021.</p> <p>All incidents that started within the collection year are in scope of this collection. For example, if an incident started on 31 March 2021 at 23:50 and ended on 1 April 2021, then all the resources and activities should be allocated, even though the incident ended outside the collection year.</p> <p>Further guidance can be found in the National Cost Collection Guidance Volume 5 – Ambulance.</p>
Release	
Release Number	DAPB4001 Amd 17/2021
Release Title	Patient- level information and costing systems (PLICS) Ambulance Data Set
Description	<p>This release incorporates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of codes relating to Call Category. • Updates to existing data item specifically, Organisation identifier of handover destination. • Update of data item field format for Organisation identifier (Code of Provider) to accommodate the introduction of ANANA codes.
Date	Ambulance providers: From 1 April 2020 (ambulance services at designated providers).
Implementation dates (start/end dates)	<p>Start date - Timetabled for submission start date 6 September 2021</p> <p>End date – Timetabled for submission end date of 29 October 2021.</p> <p>Continuous</p>

Scope

In-Scope

8. This Information Standard is mandatory for Ambulance services provided by designated NHS Trusts in England.
9. The purpose of the associated [Extract Specification](#) document is to precisely define the data to be collected and submitted for the Ambulance patient-level costing submission.
10. NHS England and Improvement have mandated PLICS from the ambulance sector since 2020, therefore all expected providers will be required to submit patient-level costing for their services.
11. For activity related to the financial year 2020/21 and will only apply to the designated providers of ambulance activity as per Annex A Section 4 of the [Requirements Specification for Patient Level Information and Costing Systems \(PLICS\) Mandatory Collections continued implementation](#) and associated [Mandatory Request](#).
12. This information standard ONLY applies to ambulance services provided by the designated NHS providers.

The collection year begins on 1 April 2020 and ends on 31 March 2021.

All incidents that started within the collection year are in scope of this collection. For example, if an incident started on 31 March 2021 at 23:50 and ended on 1 April 2021, then all the resources and activities should be allocated, even though the incident ended outside the collection year.

Out of Scope

13. The following are out of scope of the requirements of this Information Standard:
 - other patient-facing services, e.g., GP out-of-hours, patient transport service and NHS 111
 - HART (Hazardous Area Response Teams) non-responding time.

Related Standards

#	Reference	Title
1	DAPB4000 Amd 15/2021	Patient-Level Information and Costing Systems (PLICS) Integrated Data Set
2	ISB 0149	NHS Number

Changes to the standard

14. The published [Approved Costing Guidance](#) for collection year 2021 supersedes all earlier versions and is mandated for all relevant sectors.
15. The [Ambulance Extract Specification](#) sets out details of the data items and field formats required for the submission of PLICS Ambulance data for FY2020-2021.
16. The changes introduced for financial year 2020/21 are outlined below;

1. Removal of Code Definitions – Call Category

- The following codes have been removed from the Call Category definition:
 -
 - HCP1H HCP 1 hour response
 - HCP2H HCP 2 hour response
 - HCP3H HCP 3 hour response
 - HCP4H HCP 4 hour response
- These were legacy codes which from financial year 2020/2021 are no longer in use.
- NHS England and NHS Improvement have confirmed with trusts that these codes are no longer required.

2. Updates to existing data items – Organisation identifier of handover destination

- Update of data item field format length for AMB feedtype
- Format has been updated to: Alphanumeric Min Length = 3 Max Length = 9

3. Updates to existing data items – Organisation Identifier (Code of Provider)

- Update of data item field format length for all feedtypes
- Format has been updated to: Alphanumeric Min Length = 3 Max Length = 5
- The new ANANA code format came into use for all in scope organisations on 1 October 2020. The changes were originally planned for 1 April 2020 but were postponed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Issues and Maintenance

To support the implementation of this information standard any persistent issues should be fed back to the standard's developers. Feedback will be used by the developers for future development and to improve implementation of the standard. Send feedback to PLICS@nhs.net (please include 'PLICS Ambulance Standard' in the subject line).

Contact us:

costing@england.nhs.uk

NHS England and NHS Improvement

Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8UG

This publication can be made available in a number of other formats on request.