

Change Specification for Patient Level Information and Costing Systems (PLICS) Ambulance Data Set

DAPB4001 Amd 21/2022



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Overview

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
- Implementation Guidance
- Requirements Specification.

An Information Standards Notice (DAPB4001 Amd 21/2022) 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 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: 28 June 2022

Title	Change Specification for Patient level Information and Costing Systems (PLICS) Ambulance Data Set		
DAPB reference	DAPB4001 Amd 21/2022		
Sponsor	Chris Walters	Status	Final
Senior Responsible Officer	Helen Laing	Version	DAPB v1.0
Author(s)	Sarah Williams	Version Date	20.06.2022

Summary

1. 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 21/2022
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 2022/23.</p> <p>This version of the standard covers the financial year 2021/22, 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	Ambulance providers as published in Annex A Section 4 of the Requirements Specification for 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 (PTS) and NHS 111 • HART non-responding time. <p>The collection year begins on 1 April 2021 and ends on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>All incidents started within the collection year are in scope of this collection. For example, if an incident started on 31 March 2022 at 23:50 and ended on 1 April 2022 at 02:00, 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 (NCC) Guidance Volume 4 – Ambulance.</p>
Release	
Release Number	DAPB4001 Amd 21/2022
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"> • New data item - Agreed Adjustment Code item will be collected in the extract specification for agreed adjustments. <p>This will replace the previous agreed adjustment lines in the NCC workbook reconciliation as the NCC workbook reconciliation will not be used to assure NCC submissions in 2022.</p> <p>Trusts will still need to apply to NHS England and NHS Improvement for agreed adjustments and will be issued an agreed adjustment code. There will only be one 'Service ID' for agreed adjustments and this will be AADJ01. Data validation tool (DVT) rules will be generated to test the application of the agreed adjustments coding in 'AgrAdj' XML field and SerID</p>

Date	Ambulance providers: From 1 April 2021 (ambulance services at designated providers).
Implementation dates (start/end dates)	Start date - Timetabled for submission start date 18 July 2022 End date – Timetabled for submission end date of 9 September 2022 Continuous

Scope

In-Scope

2. This Information Standard is mandatory for Ambulance services provided by designated NHS Trusts in England.
3. 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.
4. NHS England and NHS 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
5. For activity related to the financial year 2021/22 and will only apply to the designated providers of ambulance activity as per Annex A Section 4 of the [Requirements Specification for PLICS Mandatory Collections continued implementation](#) and associated [Mandatory Request](#).
6. This information standard ONLY applies to ambulance services provided by the designated NHS providers.

The collection year begins on **1 April 2021** and ends on **31 March 2022**.

All incidents started within the collection year are in scope of this collection. For example, if an incident started on 31 March 2022 at 23:50 and ended on 1 April 2022 at 02:00, then all the resources and activities should be allocated, even though the incident ended outside the collection year.

Out of Scope

7. 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 20/2022	Patient Level Information and Costing Systems (PLICS) Integrated Data Set
2	ISB 0149	NHS Number

Changes to the standard

8. The published [PLICS 2022 Ambulance Approved Costing Guidance](#) for collection year 2022 supersedes all earlier versions and is mandated for all relevant sectors.
9. The [PLICS Ambulance Extract Specification](#) sets out the data items and format required for the submission of financial year 2021/22 data. This includes a Change Log which contains further details of the changes, for example whether a change is a new data item or an amendment.
10. The main change introduced for financial year 2021/22 is set out below:

Change for 2022 collection	Sector(s) affected	Required compliance	Detail
New data item – Agreed Adjustment Code	Ambulance	Mandatory if agreed adjustment code is issued	<p>In 2022 there is a new field collected in the extract specification for agreed adjustments. This will replace the previous agreed adjustment lines in the NCC workbook reconciliation as the NCC workbook reconciliation will not be used to assure NCC submissions in 2022.</p> <p>Trusts will still need to apply to NHS England and NHS Improvement for agreed adjustments and will be issued an agreed adjustment code. There will only be one ‘Service ID’ for agreed adjustments, and this will be AADJ01. Data Validation tool (DVT) rules will be generated to test the application of the agreed adjustments coding in ‘AgrAdj’ XML field and SerID.</p>

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).

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