

Addendum

Background

The [SCCI0021: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems \(ICD-10\) 5th Edition](#) (ICD-10 5th Edition) was published on 18 September 2015, with a full conformance date of 1 April 2016 and remains current.

Since then, a minor change to the definition of the gender mask metadata field in the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File Specification document has been published.

No changes are required in the content of the published Requirements Specification, Change Specification, Implementation Guidance or the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File, Table of Coding Equivalences (or specification), XML files or Summary of Changes.

Enquiries about the content of this addendum should be sent to information.standards@nhs.net.

Summary

The ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File contains the GENDER_MASK metadata field.

The ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File Specification document defines this field as an absolute check meaning that where this validation is present in local systems it will lead to record failure when:

- A code with a GENDER_MASK value of 1 is assigned on a male patients' record
- A code with a GENDER_MASK value of 2 is assigned on a female patients' record.

In the updated specification this check has been changed to a scrutiny check so that when it is applied it does not automatically lead to rejection of the record. This should generate a warning message to alert the coder to investigate further. This is in order to comply with the Equality Act 2010 to ensure equal treatment of patients regardless of a chosen gender.

This will ensure that a record will not be rejected where a condition is appropriate to the anatomy of the patient but does not match with their chosen gender. E.g. endometriosis in a patient who has chosen to have a male gender.

This should not impact data quality because the GENDER_MASK validation applied as a scrutiny check will still provide a warning to check the correct record is being coded for that episode of care, if appropriate.

This change does not require any changes to be made to the contents of the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File.

Actions

The following actions have been taken by the NHS England Terminology and Classifications Delivery Service, as developers of the information standard:

- Changed the GENDER_MASK metadata field from an absolute check to a scrutiny check in the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File Specification.
- Replaced the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File Specification document within the ICD-10 5th Edition data files release pack on the Technology Reference Update Distribution ([TRUD](#)) platform.
- Replaced the ICD-10 5th Edition Codes and Titles and Metadata File Specification document published with [SCCI0021: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems \(ICD-10\) 5th Edition](#).
- Issued an email, via TRUD, informing subscribers who have already downloaded the release files that the specification document has been updated and recommending that system suppliers implement this change as soon as possible to ensure their systems comply with the Equality Act 2010.
- Published a news item on the Delen website informing users of the changes to the specification document, that it does not affect the content of the codes and titles and metadata file, that the updated specification replaces the previous version on TRUD and the Data Alliance Partnership Board webpage for the SCCI0021 standard. It also recommends that coding managers discuss the change with their system suppliers.

System suppliers

It is recommended that system suppliers implement this change as soon as possible to ensure their systems comply with the Equality Act 2010 to ensure equal treatment of patients regardless of a chosen gender.