

Summary of Changes

HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper

From:

HRG4+ 2018/19 Local Payment Grouper

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HRG4+ Summary of Changes

Purpose

The purpose of this summary is to provide an overview of the main changes between the HRG4+ 2018/19 Local Payment Grouper and the HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper.

Changes are broken down by:

- **Grouper Input Changes**
- **Grouper Output Changes**
- **Grouper Software Changes**
- **HRG Design Changes**

This document is intended as a high-level summary to be used to form the basis of further analysis and investigation, rather than a comprehensive list of all differences between grouper releases. Further HRG4+ supporting documentation is available from the National Casemix Office website <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-casemix-office/downloads-groupers-and-tools/payment-groupers>

Note that changes outlined in this document compare the HRG design for the HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper to that for the HRG4+ 2018/19 Local Payment Grouper, the latter being the same as for the HRG4+ 2017/18 Local Payment Grouper, in support of the two-year National Tariff for the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19.

HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper from HRG4+ 2018/19 Local Payment Grouper

Grouper Input Changes

There have been no changes to the inputs of the Grouper.

Grouper Output Changes

Specialised Service Codes (SSCs) are no longer output by the Grouper. The output fields however, have been retained for this release but will no longer be populated.

Grouper Software Changes

The current way of closing instances of particular Grouper windows is to use the navigation pane and right click on the relevant instance and select 'Close'.

The Grouper now has window closure functionality on the Batch, Single Spell, RDF, Viewer and About screens.

The sample test data file that is installed as part of the Grouper installation has been renamed from 'HRG4+ Non Admitted Care Sample Test Data' to 'HRG4+ Non-Admitted Consultations Sample Test Data' to align with current Grouper database naming.

Where a user tries to load an RDF on the Batch screen, where one of the mandatory fields is missing in the RDF, a warning message is generated stating 'RDF does not contain the required fields. Do you wish to use the RDF editor?'. If 'Yes' is selected the user is taken to the RDF editor screen.

The warning message has been extended to Single Spell functionality, meaning, where a user tries to load an RDF in Single Spell, where one of the mandatory fields is missing in the RDF, then a warning message is generated stating 'RDF does not contain the required fields. Do you wish to use the RDF editor?' and if 'Yes' is selected then the user is taken to the RDF editor screen.

A fix has been implemented on the About screen to ensure that when the Grouper window is minimised, the text on the screen is appropriately truncated to ensure parts of the sentence are not hidden and displayed correctly.

Grouper Algorithm Changes

Additional Code to Group Types

The redesign of **Subchapter JB Burns Procedures and Disorders**, has required the creation of two Code to Group Types:

- Core 7 burns logic – enables a second or third degree burn diagnosis code, recorded in any position, to take precedence over all standard Core 1 procedure-driven and primary diagnosis-driven, and Core 5 global exception logic. Note, only Core 4 multiple trauma logic will take precedence over Core 7 burns logic, though Core 4 logic remains preceded by record validation and Unbundling.
- Core 3 escalation logic – enables escalation to a higher resource HRG to take place, by using the base dummy HRG roots JB91-98 (derived via Core 7 burns logic).

Further details, including flow diagrams, are available in the Chapter Summaries.

Removal of HRG Precedence

With the redesign of Subchapter **JB Burns Procedures and Disorders**, it is no longer necessary to use HRG level precedence lists e.g. HRG_P_Prec to determine the appropriate core HRG. Therefore these lists have been removed.

Expansion of DataItemID use

The redesign of **Subchapter JB Burns Procedures and Disorders**, utilises Discharge method and Discharge destination (DataItemID =DISMETH and DISDEST respectively).

Similarly the redesign of the cardiac transplant HRGs within Subchapter **ED Open Cardiac Procedures for Acquired Conditions**, also uses Discharge method.

HRG Design Changes

Update of Base Design

The design base for the HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper is the HRG4+ 2016/17 Reference Costs design. This has been updated to include the OPCS 4.8 release, which came into effect April 2017.

Increase in the number of HRGs

The net number of HRGs has increased by 50, from 2,782 in the HRG4+ 2017/18 Local Payment Grouper, to 2,832 in the HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper. Net movements in the numbers of HRGs at Subchapter level can be found in Appendix A.

Deletion and creation of new Subchapters, Subchapter FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders

To enable the creation of new HRGs to better reflect expected resource use and align this Subchapter with others in HRG4+, Subchapter **FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders** has been deleted, having reached maximum capacity, and replaced with the following:

- Subchapter **FD Digestive System Disorders**
- Subchapter **FE Digestive System Endoscopic Procedures**
- Subchapter **FF Digestive System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures**

With the exception of the creation of new HRGs for bariatric surgery, as detailed in Appendix A (and in the Chapter Summaries), there has largely been a transfer of old to new HRGs, meaning that although the HRG Code is new, the label and content matches a predecessor HRG within Subchapter **FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders**.

Changes to Support Updated national coding Guidance in Subchapter WJ Infectious Diseases and Immune System Disorders

Following updated coding guidance relating to Sepsis (April 2017, April 2018) the majority of national activity that mapped to **WJ05* Septic Shock** HRGs can now only do so if coding guidance is not adhered to.

As a result, the five ICD-10 codes that previously mapped to **WJ05* Septic Shock** HRGs where recorded as the primary diagnosis have been remapped and HRGs **WJ05A Septic Shock with CC Score 5+** and **WJ05B Septic Shock with CC Score 0-4** have been deleted, as insufficient activity remained in the HRGs to be viable.

Changes to the Neonatal Critical Care HRG Design

Changes have been made to the NCC HRG design to include the 14 new Critical Care Activity Codes (CCACs) introduced in Version 2.0 (2016) of the Neonatal Critical Care Minimum Data Set (see SCCI Information Standard 0075 for further information).

Changes to the Paediatric Critical Care HRG Design

Changes have been made to the PCC HRG design to include the 6 new Critical Care Activity Codes (CCACs) introduced in Version 2.0 (2016) of the Paediatric Critical Care Minimum Data Set (see SCCI Information Standard 0076 for further information).

Updated Logic and Lists

Update to Harvest Code Logic

There is specific coding guidance regarding the coding of harvest OPCS-4 codes (**Y54.-** to **Y69.-**). Harvest codes have been removed from the global approach code list, ensuring that logic that requires a related approach or site code will use the approach and site codes associated with the dominant, rather than harvest, procedure.

Update to Multiple Procedure Lists

As a result of the redesign of several subchapters, lists used in multiple procedure logic have been reviewed.

Updated Interventions List

The Interventions list has been updated to reflect all procedure codes that now have a maximum length of stay logic, and to remove those where this length of stay logic no longer applies.

General Enhancements

HRG labels and descriptions have been amended to help clarify content and for consistency.

Appendix A:

HRG Distribution by Subchapter in the HRG4+ 2019/20 Engagement Grouper and the HRG4+ 2018/19 Local Payment Grouper

For further details of all Subchapter changes please see the supporting documentation, including the Code to Group Excel file and the Chapter Summary document available on the National Casemix Office website at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-casemix-office/downloads-groupers-and-tools/payment-groupers>.

Changes made to HRGs, either within or outwith HRG Subchapters, can have an impact on where activity groups in specific HRG designs. This is especially, though not solely, true, where changes have been made to procedure hierarchy values.

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
AA Nervous System Procedures and Disorders	101	98	Redesign of Subchapter WD Treatment of Mental Health Patients by Non-Mental Health Service Providers has remapped treatment of Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia patients from Subchapter AA to combined Dementia HRGs in Subchapter WD, and remapping of sleep disorder patients from Subchapter WD to AA to more appropriately reflect treatment, with a net increase of one HRG; two new HRGs created specific to specialised intracranial telemetry; logic amended on procedure codes mapping to base HRG root AA54 Intermediate Intracranial Procedures, 19 years and over ensuring paediatric activity appropriately maps to HRG root AA56 Minor or Intermediate, Intracranial Procedures, 18 years and under ; logic amended to ensure a primary diagnosis relating to complication or adjustment of neurostimulator with a secondary diagnosis indicating the device has been inserted for treatment of faecal or urinary incontinence or for pain management now mapped to appropriate HRGs in Subchapters FF Digestive System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures, LB Urological and Male Reproductive System Procedures and Disorders and AB Pain Management
AB Pain Management	13	13	No change to HRG number or labels; additional logic ensures complication or adjustment of neurostimulator for pain management now rightly maps to this Subchapter
BZ Eyes and Periorbita Procedures and Disorders	94	94	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping of Corneal Implants for Keratoconus has been incorporated in line with NICE recommendations; logic for procedures mapping to base HRG roots of BZ54 Major, Orbit or Lacrimal Procedures, 19 years and over and BZ83 Very Major Vitreous Retinal Procedures, 19 years and over amended to ensure that paediatric activity maps to HRG root BZ85 Very Major or Major, Vitreous Retinal Procedures, 18 years and under .

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
CA Ear, Nose, Mouth, Throat and Neck Procedures	120	120	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping of specific procedures to reflect NICE guidance and expected resource use
CB Ear, Nose, Mouth, Throat and Neck Disorders	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping to support the Subchapter JB Burns redesign (for burns or corrosions of the mouth and pharynx)
CD Dental and Orthodontic Procedures	23	23	No change to HRG number or labels
DZ Thoracic Procedures and Disorders	176	176	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping of endobronchial nitinol coils in accordance with NICE requirements; OPCS-4 code W92.5 Other examination of joint removed as a significant procedure for Core 1 (standard) grouping
EB Cardiac Disorders	48	48	No change to HRG number or labels
EC Open and Interventional Procedures for Congenital Heart Disease	21	21	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping to support NICE guidance incorporated for transcatheter valve-in-valve implantation, plus remapping of percutaneous balloon angioplasty of pulmonary artery NEC to this Subchapter from Subchapter EY; Implantation or renewal of biventricular pacemakers remapped to better reflect additional expected resource over and above single or dual pacemakers
ED Open Cardiac Procedures for Acquired Conditions	48	46	Cardiac transplant HRGs redesigned to more appropriately accommodate bridge-to-transplant activity and the complexity of different types of transplant surgery, leading to a net increase of two HRGs
EY Interventional Cardiology for Acquired Conditions	65	65	Attention to / removal of pacemaker or cardioverter defibrillator HRGs redesigned to separately identify complex extraction procedures from simple explantation procedures, with no net change in number of HRGs; remapping of percutaneous balloon angioplasty of pulmonary artery NEC from this Subchapter to Subchapter EC; CC logic amended
FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders	0	202	Subchapter has been deleted and replaced with new Subchapters FD Digestive System Disorders , FE Digestive System Endoscopic Procedures and FF Digestive System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures (detailed below)
FD Digestive System Disorders	54	0	Formed from a straight lift-and-shift of the 54 digestive system disorders HRGs previously within Subchapter FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders ; code remapping to support the Subchapter JB Burns Procedures and Disorders redesign (for burns or corrosions of the oesophagus and alimentary tract)
FE Digestive System Endoscopic Procedures	37	0	Formed from a lift-and-shift of 37 digestive system endoscopic procedure HRGs previously within Subchapter FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders ; endoscopic bariatric HRG deleted as part of the redesign of bariatric procedure HRGs within Subchapter FF

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
FF Digestive System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures	112	0	Formed from a lift-and-shift of 112 digestive system open and laparoscopic procedure HRGs previously within Subchapter FZ Digestive System Procedures and Disorders ; the two previous bariatric surgery HRGs, plus the endoscopic bariatric surgery HRG from new Subchapter FE have been redesigned and replaced with four new HRGs for bariatric surgery to better reflect expected resource use; code remapping to identify treatments for faecal incontinence; improved identification of abdominal wall transplantation (plus escalation).
GA Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures	27	26	Subchapter renamed to clarify it contains both open and laparoscopic procedures; hepatobiliary and pancreatic transplant HRGs redesigned to more appropriately accommodate complexity of different types of transplant surgery, e.g. Pancreas Transplant, leading to a net increase of one HRG; also incorporates escalation for transplantation of abdominal wall; HRG labels also amended
GB Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Endoscopic Procedures	14	14	No change to HRG number or labels
GC Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Disorders	24	24	No change to HRG number or labels
HC Spinal Procedures and Disorders	74	74	No change to HRG number or labels; grouping of revisional percutaneous procedures on intervertebral disc updated
HD Musculoskeletal Disorders	35	35	No change to HRG number or labels
HE Orthopaedic Disorders	84	84	No change to HRG number or labels
HN Orthopaedic Non-Trauma Procedures	111	110	New HRG created specific to high cost device / procedure, HN87Z Very Complex Orthopaedic Procedures with Massive Endoprosthesis , resulting in a net increase of one HRG; harvest logic amended plus improved recognition of revisional and end-stage limb salvage procedures
HT Orthopaedic Trauma Procedures	87	87	No change to HRG number or labels; harvest logic amended plus remapping of therapeutic spacer into joint activity
JA Breast Procedures and Disorders	35	35	No change to HRG number or labels

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
JB Burns Procedures and Disorders	38	12	Complete redesign of Subchapter, including the deletion of all HRGs and replacement with 38 new HRGs, a net increase of 26, to better reflect the severity, treatment and care of burns patients ~ new HRGs reflect expected different resource use associated with severity of burn which takes into account the degree, total body surface area, patient age, location of burn, and complications and comorbidities in addition to interventions undertaken, utilising new Core 7 burns logic and concomitant Core 3 escalation logic
JC Skin Surgery	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels
JD Skin Disorders	10	10	No change to HRG number or labels
KA Endocrine System Disorders	18	18	No change to HRG number or labels
KB Diabetic Medicine	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels
KC Metabolic Disorders	9	9	No change to HRG number or labels
LA Renal Procedures and Disorders	48	48	No change to HRG number or labels
LB Urological and Male Reproductive System Procedures and Disorders	149	149	No change to HRG number or labels; code remapping to identify treatments for urinary incontinence
LD Renal Dialysis for Chronic Kidney Disease	26	26	No change to HRG number or labels
LE Renal Dialysis for Acute Kidney Injury	4	4	No change to HRG number or labels
MA Female Reproductive System Procedures	48	48	No change to HRG number or labels; combination codes created for better recognition of procedures undertaken to treat FGM
MB Female Reproductive System Disorders	17	17	No change to HRG number or labels
MC Assisted Reproduction Medicine	11	10	Deletion of MC06Z Collection of Sperm HRG and replacement with two new HRGs to reflect expected resource difference of surgical versus manual extraction, resulting in a net increase of one HRG

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
NZ Obstetric Medicine	55	56	NZ73Z Fetal Ultrasound or Other Related Fetal Interventions deleted and the obstetric ultrasound procedures remapped to either NZ21Z Ante-Natal Standard Routine Ultrasound Scan or NZ22Z Ante-Natal Specialised Non-Routine Ultrasound Scan depending on the nature of the scan; HRG labels amended to more accurately reflect content; OPCS-4 code U20.6 Fetal echocardiography remapped to EC21Z Complex Echocardiogram for Congenital Heart Disease , resulting in a net decrease of one HRG
PB Neonatal Disorders	20	20	No change to HRG number or labels
PC Paediatric Ear Nose and Throat Disorders	4	4	No change to HRG number or labels
PD Paediatric Respiratory Disorders	24	24	No change to HRG number or labels
PE Paediatric Cardiology Disorders	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels
PF Paediatric Gastroenterology Disorders	17	17	No change to HRG number or labels
PG Paediatric Hepatobiliary Disorders	3	3	No change to HRG number or labels
PH Paediatric Rheumatology Disorders	4	4	No change to HRG number or labels
PJ Paediatric Dermatology Disorders	7	7	No change to HRG number or labels
PK Paediatric Diabetology, Endocrinology and Metabolic Disorders	11	11	No change to HRG number or labels
PL Paediatric Renal Disorders	10	10	No change to HRG number or labels
PM Paediatric Haematological-Oncology Disorders	14	14	No change to HRG number or labels
PN Paediatric Non-Malignant Haematological Disorders	9	9	No change to HRG number or labels

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
PP Paediatric Ophthalmic Disorders	2	2	No change to HRG number or labels
PQ Paediatric Immune System Disorders	2	2	No change to HRG number or labels
PR Paediatric Nervous System Disorders	22	22	No change to HRG number or labels
PT Paediatric Mental Health Disorders	4	4	No change to HRG number or labels
PV Paediatric Trauma Medicine	7	7	No change to HRG number or labels
PW Paediatric Infectious Diseases	15	15	No change to HRG number or labels
PX Paediatric Medicine	46	46	No change to HRG number or labels
RD Diagnostic Imaging Procedures	47	46	New "empty core" HRG, RD97Z Admission or Attendance for Diagnostic Imaging , created for patients specifically admitted or attending for diagnostic imaging where an unbundled diagnostic procedure code is recorded, resulting in a net increase of one HRG
RN Nuclear Medicine Procedures	69	68	New "empty core" HRG, RN97Z Admission or Attendance for Nuclear Medicine , created for patients are specifically admitted or attending for diagnostic imaging where an unbundled nuclear medicine procedure code is recorded, resulting in a net increase of one HRG
SA Haematological Procedures and Disorders	104	99	Blood transfusion HRGs redesigned to more appropriately accommodate current clinical practice with regards to Automated Red Cell Exchange, and resources associated with different types of blood products, leading to a net increase of five HRGs
SB Chemotherapy	18	18	No change to HRG number or labels
SC Radiotherapy	30	30	No change to HRG number or labels
SD Specialist Palliative Care	10	10	No change to HRG number or labels
UZ Undefined Groups	1	1	No change to HRG number or labels; new U Error category, UZ15, Burns Error created for activity where burns primary diagnosis code of unspecified body region or total body surface area (TBSA) is recorded, or burns diagnosis code recorded, in any position, with no subsequent TBSA code present

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
VA Multiple Trauma	24	24	No change to HRG number or labels
VB Emergency Medicine	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels
VC Rehabilitation	23	23	No change to HRG number or labels
WD Treatment of Mental Health Patients by Non-Mental Health Service Providers	9	3	Subchapter completely redesigned to more closely align HRGs to current clinical practice; Sleep disorders remapped to new specific HRGs in Subchapter AA Nervous System Disorders ; new HRG, WD02Z Alzheimers Disease or Dementia, treated by a Non-Specialist Mental Health Service Provider created specific to Alzheimers disease and dementia, with some codes being remapped into this HRG from Subchapter AA; Acute alcohol and drug intoxication, certain signs and symptoms and congenital conditions involving developmental disorders e.g. Down syndrome remapped from this Subchapter to existing or new HRGs in Subchapter WH Poisoning, Toxic Effects, Special Examinations, Screening and Other Healthcare ; remaining WD mental health – treated by a non-specialised mental health service provider - HRGs now differentiated by type of disorder in line with ICD-10 diagnosis code definitions, resulting in a net increase of six HRGs
WF Non-admitted Consultations	8	8	No change to HRG number or labels
WH Poisoning, Toxic Effects, Special Examinations, Screening and Other Healthcare Contacts	68	64	New HRGs created specific to the treatment of acute drug and alcohol intoxication from activity previously mapped to Subchapter WD Treatment of Mental Health Patients by Non-Mental Health Service Providers , resulting in a net increase of four HRGs
WJ Infectious Diseases and Immune System Disorders	38	40	Two HRGs deleted, WJ05A Septic Shock with CC Score 5+ and WJ05B Septic Shock with CC Score 0-4 , to support updated coding guidance for severe sepsis and septic shock leading to a net decrease of two HRGs
XA Neonatal Critical Care	6	6	No change to HRG number or labels; HRG design updated for new CCACs as a result of updated NCCMDS; logic for person weight, gestation length, and person age (days) ranges used in grouping updated; all cases of “yesterday” logic removed; use of Critical Care Unit Function as a qualifying factor in HRG design expanded to cover more CCACs; remapping of existing CCACs to existing HRGs to better reflect expected resource use and clinical practice

Subchapter	E19/20	P17/18	Comment
XB Paediatric Critical Care	9	9	No change to HRG number or labels; HRG design updated for new CCACs as a result of updated PCCMDS; new logic added so that XB06Z Paediatric Critical Care, Intermediate Critical Care cannot be generated for more than 90 consecutive days on which the dominant CCAC for grouping is 52 Invasive ventilation via tracheostomy tube ; new logic added so that XB06Z Paediatric Critical Care, Intermediate Critical Care cannot be generated for more than 90 consecutive days on which the dominant CCAC for grouping is 53 Non-invasive ventilatory support ; logic resulting in escalation to a higher expected resource HRG on the day a patient dies removed; remapping of existing CCACs to existing HRGs to better reflect expected resource use and clinical practice; ICD-10 Isolation list expanded
XC Adult Critical Care	7	7	No change to HRG number or labels
XD High Cost Drugs	58	58	No change to HRG number or labels
YA Neurological Imaging Interventions	11	10	New HRG created specific to mechanical thrombectomy, YA13Z Percutaneous Transluminal, Embolectomy or Thrombolysis, of Intracranial or Extracranial Blood Vessel , as per NICE guidance, leading to a net increase of one HRG
YD Thoracic Imaging Interventions	5	5	No change to HRG number or labels
YF Gastrointestinal Imaging Interventions	8	8	No change to HRG number or labels
YG Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Imaging Interventions	16	16	No change to HRG number or labels
YH Musculoskeletal Imaging Interventions	8	8	No change to HRG number or labels
YJ Breast Imaging Interventions	12	12	No change to HRG number or labels
YL Urological Imaging Interventions	8	8	No change to HRG number or labels
YQ Vascular Open Procedures and Disorders	60	60	No change to HRG number or labels
YR Vascular Imaging Interventions	58	58	No change to HRG number or labels; logic amended to incorporate insertion of bioabsorbable stents into peripheral blood vessels as per NICE guidance

The Documentation Suite

Below is a list of the various documents which are available to download from the National Casemix Office website <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-casemix-office/downloads-groupers-and-tools>.

This documentation suite provides a comprehensive resource to enable users to understand design concepts and logic, as well as practical use of the Grouper.

- The **Casemix Companion** is a starting point and general reference guide for anyone interested in learning about the casemix classification system used by the NHS in England. The document provides an introduction to HRGs, groupers, HRG4+ design concepts and grouping logic, and it contains links to additional resources.
- The **Grouper User Manual** provides instructions on how to prepare and group data using the Grouper software application. Sample data with expected results is provided. This document is updated with every grouper release.
- The **Summary of Changes** document provides an overview of the main differences between the current grouper design and its relevant predecessor.
- The **Chapter Summaries** document provides an overview of the scope, composition and relevant grouping logic of individual HRG subchapters, and it highlights significant changes to the latest HRG design.
- The **Code to Group Workbook** is a spreadsheet that embodies the casemix design. It provides details of the constituent elements that contribute to HRG grouping, and it contains reference data such as the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 codes utilised in the design, the procedure and diagnosis hierarchies pertinent to a specific design, and the Complication and Comorbidities lists for HRG subchapters. The spreadsheet also includes information on Programme Budgeting Category (PBC) mapping, as well as a comprehensive list of HRG codes and labels.
- The **Best Practice Guide** is a spreadsheet that contains details about how the grouper allocates specific identification flags relating to best practice. Best Practice Flags usually result in an adjustment to the tariff. The spreadsheet also provides details of these specific tariff adjustments.