

Summary of Changes

**HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper
from:**

HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper

Published December 2022

C 23/24



**Information and technology
for better health and care**

Contents

Purpose	3
Changes to the HRG4+ Grouper	4
Changes to the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper from the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper	4
Grouper Input Changes	4
Grouper Output Changes	4
Grouper Software Changes	4
Grouper Algorithm Changes	4
HRG Design Changes	4
Updates expected in the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper	5
Table 1: HRG Distribution by Subchapter	6
The Documentation Suite	12

Purpose

The purpose of this summary is to provide an overview of the main changes implemented between the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper and the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper.

Changes are broken down by:

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

This document also includes a high-level description of design changes and HRG distribution by subchapter **Table 1**

This document is intended as a high-level summary to be used to form the basis of further analysis and investigation rather than as a comprehensive description 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>

Changes to the HRG4+ Grouper

There have been no changes to the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper from the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper.

Changes to the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper from the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper

Grouper Input Changes

There are no changes to the inputs of the Grouper in this release.

Grouper Output Changes

There are no changes to the outputs of the Grouper in this release.

Grouper Software Changes

The Visual Studio Runtime component that is included in the Grouper installation wrapper has been updated from version 14.30.30704 to 14.34.31931.

This update has been made to ensure that the latest Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable package is installed, ensuring compatibility with security and stability fixes that Microsoft have put into the runtime libraries. This package installs Microsoft C and C++ runtime libraries which the Grouper requires.

For further information around Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable please see the link below:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-US/cpp/windows/latest-supported-vc-redist?view=msvc-170>

Grouper Algorithm Changes

There are no changes to the algorithm of the Grouper in this release.

HRG Design Changes

Update of base design

The design base for the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper is the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper design.

Updates expected in the HRG4+ 2023/24 Local Payment Grouper

The release of the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper does not pre-empt anything to be included in the Section 114 statutory consultation, relating to the proposals for the 2023/24 National Reimbursement System, which will be published by NHS England.

The design base in the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper will be superseded by the HRG4+ 2023/24 Local Payment Grouper, which will be released in March 2023.

The HRG4+ 2023/24 Local Payment Grouper will contain significant changes to the underlying design due to the incorporation of the update to OPCS-4 (version 4.10) which is to be used from 1 April 2023. Full details of these changes will be included in the documentation suite that accompanies the release of the updated grouper product.

Table 1: HRG Distribution by Subchapter

The following table includes a high-level description of design changes and HRG distribution by subchapter, in the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper compared to the HRG4+ 2022/23 Local Payment Grouper. For further details of all changes to HRG subchapters, please see the supporting documentation for the HRG4+ 2023/24 Consultation Grouper, including the Code to Group Excel workbook and the Chapter Summaries document, available on the National Casemix Office website at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-casemix-office/downloads-groupers-and-tools>.

Changes made to the design of an HRG subchapter may have a significant impact on HRG grouping within other subchapters. This is especially true where changes have been made to procedure hierarchy values. Likewise, global design changes may impact HRG grouping within a subchapter even where no changes have been made to the subchapter itself.

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
AA Nervous System Procedures and Disorders	101	101	No change
AB Pain Management	16	16	No change
BZ Eyes and Periorbita Procedures and Disorders	95	95	No change
CA Ear, Nose, Mouth, Throat, Head and Neck Procedures	122	122	No change
CB Ear, Nose, Mouth, Throat, Head and Neck Disorders	12	12	No change
CD Dental and Orthodontic Procedures	23	23	No change
DX COVID-19 Infection	6	6	No change
DZ Thoracic Procedures and Disorders	176	176	No change
EB Cardiac Disorders	48	48	No change

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
EC Open and Interventional Procedures for Congenital Heart Disease	21	21	No change
ED Open Cardiac Procedures for Acquired Conditions	50	50	No change
EY Interventional Cardiology for Acquired Conditions	73	73	No change
FD Digestive System Disorders	54	54	No change
FE Digestive System Endoscopic Procedures	41	41	No change
FF Digestive System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures	115	115	No change
GA Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Open and Laparoscopic Procedures	27	27	No change
GB Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Endoscopic and Percutaneous Procedures	14	14	No change
GC Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic System Disorders	24	24	No change
HC Spinal Surgery and Disorders	74	74	No change
HD Musculoskeletal Disorders	35	35	No change
HE Orthopaedic Disorders	84	84	No change
HN Orthopaedic Non-Trauma Procedures	111	111	No change
HT Orthopaedic Trauma Procedures	87	87	No change
JA Breast Procedures and Disorders	35	35	No change

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
JB Burns Procedures and Disorders	38	38	No change
JC Skin Surgery	11	11	No change
JD Skin Disorders	10	10	No change
KA Endocrine System Procedures and Disorders	18	18	No change
KB Diabetic Medicine	12	12	No change
KC Metabolic Disorders	9	9	No change
LA Renal Procedures and Disorders	48	48	No change
LB Urological and Male Reproductive System Procedures and Disorders	149	149	No change
LD Renal Dialysis for Chronic Kidney Disease	26	26	No change
LE Renal Dialysis for Acute Kidney Injury	4	4	No change
MA Female Reproductive System Procedures	60	60	No change
MB Female Reproductive System Disorders	17	17	No change
MC Assisted Reproduction Medicine	11	11	No change
NZ Obstetric Medicine	55	55	No change
PB Neonatal Disorders	20	20	No change
PC Paediatric Ear Nose and Throat Disorders	4	4	No change
PD Paediatric Respiratory Disorders	24	24	No change

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
PE Paediatric Cardiology Disorders	12	12	No change
PF Paediatric Gastroenterology Disorders	17	17	No change
PG Paediatric Hepatobiliary Disorders	3	3	No change
PH Paediatric Rheumatology Disorders	4	4	No change
PJ Paediatric Dermatology Disorders	7	7	No change
PK Paediatric Diabetology, Endocrinology and Metabolic Disorders	11	11	No change
PL Paediatric Renal Disorders	10	10	No change
PM Paediatric Haematological-Oncology Disorders	14	14	No change
PN Paediatric Non-Malignant Haematological Disorders	9	9	No change
PP Paediatric Ophthalmic Disorders	2	2	No change
PQ Paediatric Immune System Disorders	2	2	No change
PR Paediatric Nervous System Disorders	22	22	No change
PT Paediatric Mental Health Disorders	4	4	No change
PV Paediatric Trauma Medicine	7	7	No change
PW Paediatric Infectious Diseases	15	15	No change

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
PX Paediatric Medicine	46	46	No change
RD Diagnostic Imaging Procedures	49	49	No change
RN Nuclear Medicine Procedures	69	69	No change
SA Haematological Procedures and Disorders	104	104	No change
SB Chemotherapy	18	18	No change
SC Radiotherapy	30	30	No change
SD Specialist Palliative Care	10	10	No change
UZ Undefined Groups	1	1	No change
VA Multiple Trauma	24	24	No change
VB Emergency Medicine	12	12	No change
VC Rehabilitation	23	23	No change
WD Treatment of Mental Health Patients by Non-Mental Health Service Providers	9	9	No change
WF Non-admitted Consultations	8	8	No change
WH Poisoning, Toxic Effects, Special Examinations, Screening and Other Healthcare Contacts	68	68	No change
WJ Infectious Diseases and Immune System Disorders	38	38	No change
XA Neonatal Critical Care	6	6	No change
XB Paediatric Critical Care	9	9	No change
XC Adult Critical Care	7	7	No change

Subchapter	C23/24	LP22/23	Comment
XD High Cost Drugs	58	58	No change
YA Neurological Imaging Interventions	11	11	No change
YC Head and Neck Imaging Interventions	3	3	No change
YD Thoracic Imaging Interventions	5	5	No change
YF Gastrointestinal Imaging Interventions	9	9	No change
YG Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Imaging Interventions	16	16	No change
YH Musculoskeletal Imaging Interventions	11	11	No change
YJ Breast Imaging Interventions	9	9	No change
YL Urological Imaging Interventions	9	9	No change
YQ Vascular Open Procedures and Disorders	64	64	No change
YR Vascular Imaging Interventions	75	75	No change

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-grouper-and-tools>.

This documentation suite provides a comprehensive resource intended to help users understand HRG design concepts and logic, as well as use the Grouper.

- The **Summary of Changes** document provides an overview of the main differences between the current Grouper design and its relevant predecessor.
- 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 each Grouper release.
- The **Chapter Summaries** document provides an overview of the scope, composition, and relevant grouping logic of individual HRG subchapters, and it highlights significant changes made in the latest HRG design.
- The **Code to Group Workbook** is an Excel workbook 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 (CC) lists for HRG subchapters. The workbook also includes information on Programme Budgeting Category (PBC) mapping as well as a comprehensive list of HRG codes and labels.

Additional documentation can be found on [The why, what and how of Casemix](#) on our website, which provides further background information relating to the work of the National Casemix Office. This section now contains **The Casemix Companion**, which is a starting point and general reference guide for anyone interested in learning about the Casemix classification system used by the NHS in England. This document provides an introduction to HRGs, Groupers, HRG4+ design concepts and grouping logic, and contains links to additional resources.