

Mapping to IHPA to calculate NWAU

2021–22

OFFICIAL

Introduction

From 1 July 2021, Victoria will implement the national funding model for acute and sub-acute admitted and non-admitted activity, and emergency department funded services. Mental health and block funded small rural health services will transition in a later phase.

As health service targets will be based on the national classification, the Victorian modified WIES, S-WIES and WASE funding models and subsequent reporting will cease from 1 July 2021.

The purpose of this document is to clarify the process for mapping from Victorian specifications to the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) specifications to calculate National Weighted Activity Unit (NWAU) in a manner consistent with the Victorian Department of Health.

The Department of Health requirements for the Victorian implementation of the National Funding Model are as follows:

- Current WIES co-payments which are not in the national model will not exist going forward. Of note;
 - Radiotherapy Vic-DRG is covered under a national radiotherapy adjustment
 - The national ICU co-payment replaces the Victorian co-payment for non-invasive ventilation and mechanical ventilation
 - There is a national Indigenous-status adjustment that is at the same rate as the current Victorian Indigenous-status co-payment.
- There will no longer be reporting of Vic-DRGs.
- Victorian modifications of AR-DRG have not been identified for 2021–22.
- Victorian cost weights will not apply.
- There will be Victorian prices – currently unknown but likely based on hospital peer groupings and not program-based.
- Victoria will not derive an SA2 but will use postcode to determine the residential remoteness adjustment for data submitted to IHPA.
- National hospital-acquired complication (HAC) risk-adjusted NWAU will be reported.
- National avoidable readmissions risk-adjusted NWAU will not be reported at this time.

Approach

IHPA publishes a range of information calculators to assist health services and jurisdictions to replicate their NWAU calculations faithfully. The information contained within the Victorian mapping for NWAU 2021-22 spreadsheet will allow Victorian health services to convert relevant Victorian code sets into the national versions upon which the IHPA calculators are based.

Each sheet in the Victorian mapping for NWAU spreadsheet has a list of Victorian codes and descriptions, followed by the national mapped code (and description). The mapped code should be used when applying the IHPA products (your software vendor can assist with this).

IHPA technical specifications can be found [here](https://www.ihta.gov.au/publications/national-pricing-model-technical-specifications-2021-22): <<https://www.ihta.gov.au/publications/national-pricing-model-technical-specifications-2021-22>>.

IHPA calculators can be found [here](https://www.ihta.gov.au/national-weighted-activity-unit-nwau-calculators/nwau-calculators-2021-22): <<https://www.ihta.gov.au/national-weighted-activity-unit-nwau-calculators/nwau-calculators-2021-22>>

When using IHPA products or developing a local version of the calculators, the Victorian code for relevant data items should be looked up in the Victorian mapping for NWAU 2021-22 spreadsheet found [here](https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/vic-mapping-for-nwau-2021-22): <<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/vic-mapping-for-nwau-2021-22>> and replaced with the mapped code detailed in the spreadsheet. Alternatively, the local solution could use the equivalent local value with reference to this mapping.

If implementing local solutions, the price weight tables can be downloaded [here](https://www.ihta.gov.au/publications/national-efficient-price-determination-2021-22): <<https://www.ihta.gov.au/publications/national-efficient-price-determination-2021-22>>

Key definitions

Admitted acute episode attract additional risk adjustments based on Hospital Acquired Complications (HACs). Details can be found [here](https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/hospital-acquired-complications-hacs-groupers): <<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/hospital-acquired-complications-hacs-groupers>>

For 2021/22 (N21) additional adjustments will be made by IHPA for Avoidable Hospital Readmissions (AHRs) but AHRs will NOT be implemented in Victoria at this time.

For 2021/22 (N21), a new emergency data classification system is being used – the Australian Emergency Care Classification (AECC) system.

All funding classifications can be found [here](https://www.ihta.gov.au/what-we-do/classifications): <<https://www.ihta.gov.au/what-we-do/classifications>>

Next steps

IHPA publishes its calculators in two formats: a SAS version and an EXCEL version. The SAS version is fully self-contained and includes all functionality to calculate NWAU from source data, whereas the EXCEL versions sometimes require pre-preparation of the source data. In both cases the episodes must be coded in the relevant classification system (admitted acute – ARDRG 10, admitted subacute – ANSNAP, non-admitted – Tier 2, Emergency presentations – AECC)

EXCEL data preparation

- Assign the relevant classification system (ARDRG, ANSNAP, T2, AECC)
- Convert Victorian codes to IHPA codes (look up Victorian values for relevant items in the Victorian mapping for NWAU 2021-22 spreadsheet and replace with the mapped code)
- Assign episode NWAU adjustment flags (e.g. radiotherapy, renal dialysis, COVID-19, etc.)
- Assign episode HAC-related flags and Charlson Scores (acute admitted episodes only)
- Create an extract according to the Excel calculator's inbuilt specification
- Paste resultant data into the EXCEL calculator and run the embedded macro

Vendor instructions

Vendors should familiarise themselves with the IHPA calculators and technical specification. Vendors can choose to either;

1. replicate the IHPA calculator logic in their proprietary software with code mapping guidance provided in the Victorian mapping for NWAU 2021-22 spreadsheet (where local code sets vary from the national standard), or
2. develop scripts/processes to integrate the IHPA products directly into their proprietary software.

Note: vendors may have already incorporated the IHPA calculators in other jurisdictions using their product.

To receive this document in another format, email [National Funding Model](mailto:NationalFundingModel@dhhs.vic.gov.au) (DHHS) <NationalFundingModel@dhhs.vic.gov.au>.

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

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Available at [Mapping to IHPA to calculate NWAU](https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/mapping-to-IHPA-to-calculate-NWAU-guide)

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