

**Proposals for Revisions to the  
Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS)  
For 1.7.2003**

**Department of Human Services  
November 2002**

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# Executive Summary

This document contains details of the proposed revisions to the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 1 July 2003. The proposed revisions are summarised below:

- To add an additional *Reason for Removal* code for patients whose treatment was arranged by the Elective Surgery Access Service (ESAS) and to provide/amend associated edits as appropriate
- To amend the definition of the *Date of Procedure* field
- To collect data for waiting list procedures excluded from the National Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection (Excluded Procedures)

# Introduction

Changes to the ESIS data collection are necessary to ensure Victoria continues to meet its national reporting obligations, and to assist planning and policy development by the Department of Human Services.

This document is distributed to all Victorian hospitals that currently report to ESIS, and to software suppliers known to have Victorian clients. It outlines the *proposed* changes to ESIS, by providing details of the proposal, reporting requirements, the purpose of the amendment and the source of the code set. This should not be regarded as a complete list of changes to be made for 2003–2004. Items in this publication cannot be guaranteed not to change or to change in the form suggested here; nor does the absence of an item from this publication indicate it will not change from 1 July 2003. Confirmed changes will be published in the document *Specification for Revisions to ESIS for 1 July 2003*, which will be published in February/March 2003.

It is expected that the release of this document will stimulate discussion within the health industry. **Feedback is sought on these proposals.** Hospitals and software suppliers should review this document and assess the feasibility of these proposals. All are invited to provide written feedback to the Department of Human Services by completing the proforma provided with this document, and forwarding it to the Department by **Wednesday 20 November 2002.**

There will be a **summary presentation** of these proposals during the HDSS Forum to be conducted on **Friday 25 November 2002.** Responses to feedback received from hospitals and software suppliers during the feedback period will be addressed at this forum and subsequently assessed by the ESIS Technical Reference Group.

Constructive suggestions are welcomed, both for dealing with the proposed changes identified in this document, and of other alterations to ESIS, to improve its utility for hospitals.

## Abbreviations

ACES	Advisory Committee on Access to Elective Surgery
DHS	Department of Human Services
DOSA	Date of Surgery Admission
ESAS	Elective Surgery Assessment Service
ESIS	Elective Surgery Information System
HDSS	Health Data Standards and Systems
NESWTDC	National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection

# Proposed Modifications to Existing Data Items:

## *Patient Record*

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### ***Reason for Removal***

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**It is proposed to** Introduce a reason for removal code to identify those patients who are removed from a hospital's waiting list because their treatment at another hospital was arranged by the Elective Surgery Access Service (ESAS)

**Proposed by:**

Quality and Care Continuity Branch  
Inpatient Services Unit  
Department of Human Services  
Contact: Joanne Burns, Telephone 9616 7072

**Reason for Proposed Change:**

To provide a means of identifying those patients removed from a hospital's waiting list because their treatment at another hospital was arranged by ESAS.

**Collection Mechanism:**

The reporting responsibility for the patient's waiting episode remains with the original hospital.

The receiving hospital is responsible for notifying the original hospital of the scheduled admission date and removal date.

The receiving hospital must notify the original hospital of the removal date within seven days of the patient's treatment for the awaited procedure.

**Proposed specification:**

<i>Code set</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Descriptor</i>
<i>Treated elsewhere?</i>	<b>S</b>	Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by Elective Surgery Access Service
<i>Reporting guide</i>		<p>The patient 's treatment at another hospital has been arranged by ESAS.</p> <p>The responsibility for the patient's waiting episode remains with the ESIS hospital/health service reporting this episode.</p> <p>This patient must remain on the waiting list until admitted.</p> <p><b>Report a <i>Destination</i> (renamed from <i>Transfer Destination</i>) code to indicate the hospital where the patient receives treatment arranged by ESAS.</b></p>

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## ***Date of Procedure***

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**It is proposed to** Amend the requirements for reporting this field to “Patients removed from the waiting list” where the *Reason for Removal* is **W** *Admitted to this hospital for awaited procedure as a planned admission*

**Proposed by:**

Quality and Care Continuity Branch

Inpatient Services Unit

Department of Human Services

Contact: Tim Williamson, Telephone 9616 9878

**Reason for proposed change:**

To ensure that Day of Surgery Admission (DOSA) rates can be determined for all patients where the *Reason for Removal* code is W: Admitted to this hospital for awaited procedure as a planned admission.

NB:

A review of the data submitted to date indicates there is a possibility that this change can be implemented with minimal impact prior to 1 July 2003.

**Proposed Specification:**

***Reported for*** Patients removed from the waiting list where the Reason for Removal is:  
**W** *Admitted to this hospital for awaited procedure as a planned admission*

***Recorded when*** The patient is removed from the waiting list

***Reporting guide*** If no procedure has been performed by the Census Date, the field should remain blank.

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## Principal Prescribed Procedure

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**It is proposed to** Amend the definition of Principal Prescribed Procedure to include excluded procedures.

**Proposed by:**

Quality and Care Continuity Branch  
Inpatient Services Unit  
Department of Human Services  
Contact: Tim Williamson, Telephone 9616 9878

**Reason for proposed change:**

It is the Department's understanding that many hospitals already collect data on patients waiting for National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection (NESWTDC) – excluded elective surgery procedures, and that these records are not extracted when the hospital transmits ESIS data to the Department.

It is therefore proposed that hospitals report NESWTDC – excluded elective surgical procedures in order to:

- Assist in achieving more clarity and consistency in hospitals coding of NESWTDC included and excluded procedures.
- Provide the Department with data on patients waiting for NESWTDC – excluded elective surgery procedures to inform strategic planning and policy development.
- Improve the quality of hospitals' waiting times data on patients waiting for these procedures because the data would undergo the same editing process as NESWTDC – included procedures.

The list of Principal Prescribed Procedures would be expanded to include elective surgery procedures excluded from the NESWTDC. Work is currently being done to develop a list of codes to identify excluded procedures.

The NESWTDC – excluded elective surgery procedures would be reported for patients registered on or after 1 July 2003.

In line with national definitions, data on patients waiting for NESWTDC – excluded elective surgery procedures would not be included in waiting list and waiting time figures reported to the Victorian Government, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care and the public.

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## ***Destination***

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**It is proposed to** Amend the field name from *Transfer Destination* to *Destination*, in order to accurately reflect the types of waiting episodes allocated a destination code upon removal from the waiting list.

**Proposed by:**

Health Data Standards and Systems

Department of Human Services

Contact: Carla Arrighini, Telephone 9616 8118

**Reason for proposed change:**

The introduction of the Elective Surgery Access Service (ESAS) widens the range of waiting episodes, which require a destination code to be reported when the episode is removed from the waiting list, in order to identify the hospital campus administering treatment to patients who are still the responsibility of the original hospital.

## **Specification**

**Reported for** Each patient removed from the waiting list with a *Reason for Removal* of:

- T** *Transfer of waiting episode to another ESIS hospital*
- N** *Transfer of waiting episode to a non-ESIS (public) hospital*
- X** *This hospital arranged admission at another hospital under contract*
- S** *Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by Elective Surgery Access Service*

**Recorded when** The patient is removed from the waiting list of this hospital because the patient is transferred to another hospital waiting list or is receiving treatment under contract (or similar arrangement) at another hospital.

The patient receives treatment at another hospital campus, where treatment is arranged by ESAS.

***Reporting guide  
(continued)***

**Patients who are treated under the Elective Surgery Access Service (ESAS).**

A patient treated at another hospital, arranged by ESAS, is not considered to be a transfer, because the responsibility for the patient's waiting episode remains with the original hospital. However, in order to identify where the patient is to receive treatment, report the *Destination* code for the treating hospital campus. Remove the patient from the waiting list with *Reason for Removal* code S *Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by Elective Surgery Access Service*

***Edits***

S306 – Invalid Destination

S307 – Destination equals Campus / Health Service

S308 – Destination equals Campus within this Health Service

S309 - Blank Destination

S310 - Destination / Reason for Removal Mismatch

Sxxx – Invalid Destination for ESAS Reason for Removal

Sxxx – Blank Destination for ESAS Reason for Removal

## Proposed Revisions: *New Editing*

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### *Reason for Removal*

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**S###**      **Invalid Surgical Specialty for ESAS Reason for Removal**

**Effect**      REJECTION

**Problem**      The *Surgical Specialty* code for this record is invalid.

This record has a *Reason for Removal* code **S**: Treatment of awaited procedure arranged by ESAS, therefore the surgical speciality must be one of the following:

- 03 General Surgery
- 06 Ophthalmology
- 07 Orthopaedics
- 08 Plastic Surgery

**Remedy**      Correct the *Surgical Specialty* and resubmit.

**S###**      **Invalid Clinical Urgency category for ESAS Reason for Removal**

**Effect**      REJECTION

**Problem**      The *Clinical Urgency* category for this record is invalid.

This record has a *Reason for Removal* code **S**: Treatment of awaited procedure arranged by ESAS, therefore the *Clinical Urgency* category must be 2.

**Remedy**      Correct the *Clinical Urgency* category and resubmit.

**S### Invalid Destination for ESAS Reason for Removal**

**Effect** REJECTION

**Problem** This record has a *Reason for Removal* code **S**: Treatment of awaited procedure arranged by ESAS, therefore the valid destination must be one of the following:

- 1180 Western Hospital
- 1450 St Vincent's Hospital
- 2112 Cranbourne Integrated Care Centre

**Remedy** Determine the correct *Destination* for this patient, enter the code and resubmit.

**S### Blank Destination for ESAS Reason for Removal**

**Effect** REJECTION

**Problem** The *Destination* field in this record is blank however, the record has a reported *Reason for Removal* code of:

*S Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by ESAS*

When the patient's treatment for the awaited procedure has been arranged by ESAS, then the valid destination must be one of the following:

- 1180 Western Hospital
- 1450 St Vincent's Hospital
- 2112 Cranbourne Integrated Care Centre

**Remedy** Determine the correct *Destination* for this patient, enter the code and resubmit.

## Proposed Revisions: **Revised Editing**

### **S310 Destination / Reason for Removal Mismatch**

**Effect** REJECTION

**Problem** This record has a reported *Destination* code, but the *Reason for Removal* code is not:

T *Transfer of waiting episode to another ESIS Hospital, or*

N *Transfer of waiting episode to a non ESIS (public) hospital, or*

X *This hospital/health service arranged admission at another hospital under contract*

S *Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by ESAS*

Refer: Section 3 – Data Definitions: *Campus/Health Service Code, Reason for Removal and Destination.*

**Remedy** Check whether the patient's waiting episode was transferred to another hospital or treated at another hospital under contract (or similar arrangement) or treatment arranged by ESAS:

- If the waiting episode was transferred, enter *Reason for Removal* code of T *Transfer of waiting episode to another ESIS hospital* or N *Transfer of waiting episode to a non-ESIS (public) hospital.*
- If the hospital has arranged for the patient to be treated at another hospital under contract (or similar arrangement), enter *Reason for Removal* of X *This hospital/health service arranged admission at another hospital under contract.*
- If the patient's treatment for awaited procedure was arranged by ESAS, enter a Reason for Removal code of S *Treatment for awaited procedure arranged by ESAS*
- Record the correct *Campus/Health Service Code* for the receiving hospital in the *Destination* field. Then resubmit.
- If the waiting episode was *not* transferred or patient's treatment not arranged by ESAS or performed under contract, delete the *Destination* code and resubmit.