

Bulletin

Health Data Standards and Systems

Issue 136 – 15 September 2008

Attention: Health Information Managers – For Action
VAED/ESIS/VEMD/VINAH Submission Officers – For Action
VAED/ESIS/VEMD/VINAH Software suppliers – For Action
Emergency Department Directors – For Action

This edition of the Health Data Standards and Systems (HDSS) Bulletin has been published in electronic format only. It has been posted on our website at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/bulletin/136-150908.pdf> and can be viewed as a downloadable file.

This bulletin provides information regarding:

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- Call for proposals for changes to the acute datasets
- DHS & Australian Government Circular updates
- Admissions to Observational Medicine Units
- Coding
 - Coding advice for ventilatory support
 - HIM and Clinical Coder workforce survey
- VAED
 - Base WIES price for 2008-09 Workcover statements
 - Release of 2008-09 Hospital Admission Policy

Please download the document from our website. If you do not have internet access, please contact the HDSS Help Desk to obtain a hard copy of this bulletin. It is essential that this document be distributed to relevant staff in your organisation.

Yours faithfully,

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Table of Contents

Global Update	3
136.1 DHS circular update	3
136.2 Australian Government circular update	3
136.3 Call for proposals for changes to acute datasets	3
136.4 Accuracy of data supplied to DHS	4
136.5 Observational Medicine Units.....	4
Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED)	5
136.6 Admission Policy	5
136.7 WorkSafe statements from PRS/2	5
ICD Coding	6
136.8 CVS and NIV Coding Advice	6
136.9 HIM and Clinical Coder Workforce Survey	6
Contact Details	7

Global Update

136.1 DHS circular update

The following circulars have been released, and can be found at:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hospitalcirculars/>

Hospital Circular 22/2008

Subject: Highly specialised drugs program

136.2 Australian Government circular update

The following circulars have been released:

PHI 42/08 Change from Private to Public Hospital – Mercy Community Hospital

Private Health Insurance circulars can be found at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2008-index1>

To subscribe to the circulars, email your subscription details to Private Health Insurance Branch at privatehealth@health.gov.au

136.3 Call for proposals for changes to acute datasets

As part of the annual review of acute health data collections, the Health Data Standards and Systems (HDSS) unit is now accepting proposals for changes to data collections for the 2009-10 financial year.

Data collections in-scope are:

- Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED);
- Victorian Emergency Minimum Dataset (VEMD);
- Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS);
- Victorian Integrated Non-Admitted Health Minimum Dataset (VINAH); and,
- Agency Information Management System-Hosted collections (excluding financial reports) (AIMS).

Each year the VAED, VEMD, ESIS, VINAH and AIMS data collections are reviewed to ensure the collections support the Department's state and national reporting obligations and reflect changes in hospital funding and service provision arrangements for the coming financial year.

Final acceptance of all proposals will be based upon evaluation by the HDSS unit and recommendations by the Data Management Advisory Committee (DMAC) prior to signoff by the Executive Directors of Rural and Regional Health and Aged Care Services and Metropolitan Health and Aged Care Services, based on the business case for the proposal.

Proposals must demonstrate a clear justification for all changes and align with the scope of the relevant data collection

Where there is a genuine need to alter reporting requirements, proposals for changes can be submitted on the HDSS Proposal proforma at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss>

Contributors are encouraged to discuss their proposal with the relevant HDSS staff member prior to completing and submitting the proforma.

136.4 Accuracy of data supplied to DHS

Health Services are reminded that all data supplied to DHS is expected to represent an accurate picture of Health Service activity. This data is used for funding, policy making, performance monitoring or used to meet DHS' own reporting obligations to State and Australian Governments, the media and the public.

This data may also be used as a baseline against which subsequent audits of Health Service data collection will be compared.

In particular this applies to aggregate data which DHS may request from time to time. This data is treated with the same level of seriousness and confidence as unit record data and Health Services must take equivalent care in its submission.

136.5 Observational Medicine Units

Hospitals are reminded that in the course of normal business, patients in cubicles in the emergency department, regardless of the care that they are receiving, must not be reported as being in an observational medicine unit (that is, Short Stay Observation Unit, Medical Assessment and Planning Unit, Emergency Medical Unit, Psychiatric Assessment and Planning Unit et al).

Exceptions to this must be confirmed in writing by the department.

Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED)

136.6 Admission Policy

An updated Admission Policy effective 1 September 2008 has been placed on the HDSS website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vaed/vaedcomms.htm>

This contains clarifications regarding mother-baby clinics and extended medical care. Importantly, these clarifications do not represent a change to existing admission policy, but aim to eliminate incorrect admissions and ensure consistent practice.

136.7 WorkSafe statements from PRS/2

The 2008-09 base WIES price for acute WorkSafe separations is \$3544. The PRS/2 WorkSafe statements have now been updated to reflect this. Please resubmit episode records (E4s) for any 2008-09 WorkSafe acute admitted episodes that were submitted to PRS/2 prior to 8 September 2008. A new WorkSafe statement will be triggered by this resubmission.

ICD Coding

136.8 CVS and NIV Coding Advice

An article has been produced by the Victorian ICD Coding Committee that outlines the major changes to ACS 1006 Ventilatory Support and provides some clarification around these changes. This article can be accessed at:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/features/index.htm>

Any comments or queries related to this article should be forwarded to Carla Read, Secretary, Victorian ICD Coding Committee, at: carla.read@dhs.vic.gov.au

136.9 HIM and Clinical Coder Workforce Survey

HDSS in partnership with the Service and Workforce Planning Branch of DHS has undertaken to conduct a survey of Victorian HIMs and Clinical Coders. The results of this survey will be used to identify gaps in the HIM and Clinical Coding workforce. This in turn will be used by the Service and Workforce Planning Branch to develop promotional activities for the profession.

The survey can be found on the HDSS website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/> and can be completed online. It will be available until the end of October 2008.

It is important that all HIMs and coders support this initiative by completing the survey. We would also encourage anyone who reads this Bulletin to forward this information to any HIMs or Clinical Coders whom they know and who may not have already received this information. We are interested in information from professionals who are currently not working as well as from those who are working.

Hard copies of the survey and further information about the survey can be obtained by contacting Jennie Shephard at: jennie.shephard@dhs.vic.gov.au

Contact Details

The Health Data Standards and Systems (HDSS) Unit of the Metropolitan and Aged Care Services Division has responsibility for maintaining data standards for five Victorian health data collections:

- Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED)
- Victorian Emergency Minimum Dataset (VEMD)
- Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS)
- Agency Information Management System (AIMS)
- Victorian Integrated Non-Admitted Health Minimum Dataset (VINAH)

The HDSS Bulletin, produced on an ad hoc basis, provides:

- Answers to common questions recently directed to the HDSS Helpdesk;
- Communication regarding the implementation of revisions to data collection specifications, including notification of amendments to specified data collection reference tables;
- Feedback on selected data quality studies undertaken; and
- Information on upcoming events.

HDSS Website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss>

HDSS Help Desk:

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