

# Bulletin

Health Data Standards and Systems

**Issue 146 – 22 July 2009**

Attention: Health Information Managers – For Action  
Clinical Coders – For Action  
VAED Software suppliers – 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/146-220709.pdf> and also at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/july/index.htm> and can be viewed as a downloadable file.

## **CLINICAL CODING AND CLASSIFICATION EDITION**

This is a special coding and classification bulletin that provides information regarding:

- Coding and Classification changes for 1 July 2009
- Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards
- VIC-DRGs for 2009-10
- Data Quality Tools
- VAED reporting

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.

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## CODING AND CASEMIX CLASSIFICATIONS

### 146.1 ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Edition for 2009-10

All separations on or after 1 July 2009 must be coded using:

- ICD-10-AM/ACHI Sixth Edition (and relevant errata) in accordance with the Sixth Edition Australian Coding Standards
- Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards effective 1 July 2009
- Relevant information published on the HDSS Clinical Coding website at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/index.htm>
- Information contained in the VICC queries database at: <http://www.serviceforip.webcentral.com.au/viccdb/>.

Queries regarding the application of codes and standards can be sent to the Victorian ICD Coding Committee. The query form used in this process is available at:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/codecommit/icdquery.htm>

### 146.2 ICD-10-AM/ACHI Library file for 2009-10

The 2009-10 ICD-10-AM/ACHI Library file (in Excel format) and the description of the file structure are available on the HDSS website at:

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

Details of changes to the library file for 2009-10 are available in Bulletin 147.

### 146.3 NCCH advice

NCCH publishes coding advice in Coding Matters which has been ratified by their Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC). Coding Matters can be accessed on the NCCH web page at: <http://www.ncch.com.au/>.

Advice published here should be followed for coding in Victoria and will be referenced during admitted patient data audits.

### 146.4 Grouper version and mapping for 2009-10

Separations on or after 1 July 2009 will be grouped using AR-DRG Version 6.0. No mapping is required in this financial year as the grouper version uses the current edition of ICD-10-AM/ACHI codes.

Information about AR-DRG Version 6.0 can be found on the website of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/health-casemix-ardrg1.htm> and in the Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups Version 6.0 Definitions Manual – available for purchase from NCCH – see web site: <http://www.ncch.com.au/> (click on Products/Services in the right hand dialogue box).

*The Victoria-Public hospitals and mental health services; Policy and Funding Guidelines 2009-10* provides further details about the funding model including the Victorian Cost Weights for

WIES 16. The Policy and funding guidelines will be available shortly at:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/hospitals.htm>

### 146.5 Notification of Grouper anomalies

The Department of Health and Ageing has developed a standard form for notification of grouper anomalies. The form can be accessed at  
[http://www.health.vic.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Modify\\_ADRG\\_](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Modify_ADRG_)

Please also notify the Victorian ICD Coding Committee of any anomalies. The State can, in many instances, influence a faster resolution of problems or make local adjustments to grouper software as required.

### 146.6 Calendar of Grouper Versions and Coding Editions updated

The latest calendar of grouper versions and coding editions can be found at:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/index.htm>

This calendar provides information regarding the release dates and implementation dates for the classifications in use in Victoria.

## VICTORIAN AMENDMENTS TO CLASSIFICATIONS

### 146.8 Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards for 2009-10

Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards for 2009-10 can be found at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/index.htm>

The additions must be appended to the Australian Coding Standards for the Sixth Edition of ICD-10-AM/ACHI for use from 1 July 2009. No amendments have been made to this document since 1 July 2008.

### 146.9 Victorian modifications to AR-DRGs for 2009-10

In 2009-10 hospitals will assign diagnoses and procedure codes using the Sixth Edition of the ICD-10-AM classification. For funding purposes, these codes will be grouped to AR-DRG Version 6.0.

Several of the adjustments that were made to the original AR-DRG 5.2 grouping to create Vic DRGs have been discontinued in AR-DRG 6.0 due to the Commonwealth incorporating these amendments into the national grouper. The one remaining VIC DRG is for radiotherapy and is reproduced below for your information.

#### **Radiotherapy**

Australian Coding Standard 0229 Radiotherapy instructs coders to assign a code for the malignancy as the principal diagnosis in multi-day episodes for radiotherapy. This results in episodes grouping to a wide range of AR-DRG 6.0s.

To maintain funding equity, a VIC-DRG 6.0 of R64Z Radiotherapy will be assigned for non same-day non-surgical episodes that include a radiation oncology procedure from ACHI blocks [1786] to [1792], [1794] or [1795] for treatment of a neoplastic condition (i.e. at least one code from the ICD-10-AM range C00-D48), except for episodes with the following AR-DRG6.0s: B61A and B61B; and pre-MDC AR-DRG 6.0s: A40Z, W60Z, W61A, W61B, S65A, S65B, S65C, B60A, B60B, B82A, B82B and B82C.

Information regarding the VIC DRG modifications can be found in the Policy and Funding Guidelines 2009-10: Technical Guidelines that will be available shortly at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/hospitals.htm>

## DATA QUALITY TOOLS

### 146.10 Admission Policy information

Hospitals must adhere to the DHS Hospital Admission Policy effective 1 September 2008 which can be found at: [http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vaed/adm\\_policy\\_1\\_sep2008.pdf](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vaed/adm_policy_1_sep2008.pdf)

For information regarding updates to the admission policy please refer to Bulletin 147.

### 146.11 Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ)

The Department of Human Services holds a Statewide licence for PICQ. Public and private hospitals that wish to run the PICQ software internally can apply for a free download of the software from the DHS website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/picq/index.htm>.

The Department analyses statewide data using PICQ and makes individual hospital reports available via the PICQ VIC Online web site. Public and private hospitals are strongly encouraged to make use of this service to monitor and improve the quality of coding.

Hospitals can register to access their reports at the website:

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

Monthly statewide PICQ analysis will continue to be available via the HDSS website.

Queries regarding the use of this software, the PICQ VIC Online process and any comments regarding the indicators themselves should be sent to the HDSS Help Desk.

## VAED REPORTING FOR 2009-10

### 146.12 VAED Submission Timelines for 2009-10

A hospital may transmit data to the VAED as frequently as desired, but must meet requirements as set out in the *Victoria-Public hospitals and mental health services; Policy and Funding Guidelines 2009-10* 'General Conditions of Funding' which will be available shortly at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/hospitals.htm>

### 146.13 Date of First Coded Procedure

Details of changes to PRS/2 and the VAED for 2009-10 are available in the Specifications for Revisions document at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/>

A change of significance to coders is the requirement to report the date of the first coded procedure. The list of codes for which a date must be reported when it is the first procedure code is available in the reference files section of the HDSS website at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/reffiles/index.htm>

Coders are reminded to continue to sequence procedure codes according to the guidelines in ACS 0016 General Procedure Guidelines.

## Contact Details

The Health Information Section 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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