

Bulletin

Health Data Standards and Systems

Issue 152 – 22 December 2009

Attention 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 the HDSS website at

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/bulletin/152-22122009.pdf> and can be viewed as a downloadable file.

This bulletin provides information regarding:

Global update

- Departmental restructure
- DH Circular updates
- PHI Circular updates
- Revisions to HDSS data collections for 2010-11
- Medicare Eligibility Status – Eligible Person update

VAED

- PRS/2 User Reconciliation Report now also a Request Report
- VAED data submission timelines

Clinical Coding

- ICD-10-AM/ACHI library file amendment
- PICQ and PICQ VIC Online

ESIS

- ESIS Manual 12th Edition 2009-10 released

VEMD

- Re-instate Edits E001, E003, E006, E007 & E010
- Reason for transfer correction

AIMS/APET

- HealthCollect portal maintenance closure

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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Global Update

152.1 Department restructure and change of departmental email addresses

As a result of the government's recent decision to create two new departments:

- the Department of Health; and
- the Department of Human Services.

Please note the following changes:

- A new Department of Health homepage is available at www.health.vic.gov.au.
- The former divisions Metropolitan Health & Aged Care Services (MHACS) and Rural & Regional Health & Aged Care (RRHACS) are now part of the Hospital & Health Service Performance Division.
- Departmental staff email addresses have been modified to reflect the new structure. The new format of the email addresses is firstname.surname@health.vic.gov.au.
- Group email addresses have also been modified to reflect the new structure.

Please update your address book with the new emails below:

HDSS helpdesk	HDSS.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au
VEMD helpdesk	Submit.VEMD@health.vic.gov.au
ESIS helpdesk	ESIS.ESIS@health.vic.gov.au
HealthCollect	healthcollect@health.vic.gov.au
VHIRS helpdesk	VHIRS.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au

The data collection manuals will be updated with the new email addresses in due course.

152.2 Department of Health Circular update

The following departmental hospital circular has been released since the publication of the previous HDSS Bulletin.

Hospital circulars are available at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hospitalcirculars/>

Publication Number 31/2009
Date issued: 1 December
Subject: Changes to the Highly Specialised Drugs Program - Effective 1 December 2009

152.3 Australian Government Circular update

The following circulars have been released since the publication of the previous HDSS Bulletin.

Private Health Insurance circulars can be found at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2009-index1>

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

PHI Circular 81/09 - Rebates for Cataract Surgery from 26 November 2009

PHI Circular 80/09 - Payment of the 2009 Private Health Insurance Complaints Levy

PHI Circular 79/09 - Rebates for Cataract Surgery from 26 November 2009

PHI Circular 78/09 - Update on Cataract Surgery Rebates

152.4 Revisions to HDSS data collections for 2010-11

The article '**DRAFT Specifications for Comment**' below was emailed to the HDSS Bulletin mailing list and published on the [HDSS website](#) on 15 December 2009.

Please note:

- Health services are reminded that comments are due by 23 December 2009.
- **VAED data item Procedure Date/Time:** following internal discussion and early feedback from the sector, reporting of 'Time of Procedure' will remain **optional**.

DRAFT Specifications for Comment

Each year the VAED, VEMD, ESIS, VINAH and AIMS data collections are reviewed to ensure that 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.

Subject to confirmation of any National Minimum Dataset updates by 31 December 2009, draft specifications for changes to VAED, VEMD and VINAH for 2010-11 are now available for comment. There are no changes proposed for ESIS or to existing AIMS (non-financial) returns and only minor changes proposed to VAED & VEMD (no new data elements or file structure changes).

The specifications are the result of an evaluation of proposals for change received from both the sector and within the department. Not all proposals received were accepted for incorporation into these specification documents. The changes presented here are the result of an evaluation of the proposals for collectability and statistical rigour and aim to balance the needs of data users against the administrative burden placed on data submitters.

As this has been a period when a number Health Services have experienced difficulties in reporting data to the department, a key criterion for evaluation of proposed changes has been and will continue to be the minimisation of changes to systems and reporting requirements in order to provide as stable an environment as possible in which to resolve these issues. Feedback on the impact and ability of Health Services to collect and report according to these proposed changes is sought and will be used to determine the final change specification for 2010-11 reporting.

The draft specifications and a proforma for comment on these draft specifications are provided on our website at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/>

Comments should be submitted on the proforma by email through the **HDSS Help Desk**, hdss.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au by **close of business 23 December 2009**.

Questions and requests for clarification should also be directed through the **HDSS Help Desk**.

In summary, the proposed changes are:

ESIS

There are no changes for ESIS for 2010-11.

AIMS

Changes to the F1/CCOA and Annual Returns are excluded from this process; advice on any changes to these returns will be provided at a later date.

There are no changes to existing AIMS returns.

A new return will be developed for reporting of Medi-Hotel bed occupancy which is consistent with and will replace the existing spreadsheet-based reporting; details will be advised in due course.

VEMD

There is one minor change to VEMD: Patients will no longer be reportable as departing to an EMU.

VAED

There are a number of minor changes to VAED, please see the draft specifications document for details.

VINAH

There are a number of changes to VINAH, including new programs in scope, new data elements and code set changes. Please see the draft specifications document for details.

152.5 Medicare Eligibility Status – Eligible Person Update (VAED, VEMD, ESIS)

Belgium formed a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) with Australia in September 2009. The Medicare Eligibility Status – Eligible Person concept definition in Section 2 of the VEMD and ESIS manuals have been updated to include Belgium in the list of RHCA countries.

The VAED manual already included Belgium in the list of RHCA countries when it was published on 22 October 2009. The updated ESIS manual was published on 9 December 2009. The VEMD manual will be updated with 'Belgium' in place of 'Kingdom of Belgium'.

The updated information is published below for information.

VAED, VEMD and ESIS manuals

Guide for Use (Cont'd)

Reciprocal Health Care Agreements (RHCA)

Agreements negotiated by Australian authorities with other countries which enable visitors to Australia, who are ordinarily resident in a country with which Australia has a RHCA, to access immediately necessary treatment of ill health arising during the stay and which requires attention before the patient returns home: pre-arranged and elective treatment are not covered.

This agreement provides for admitted patient care, but only as a public patient, for such medical treatment as is clinically necessary for the diagnosis, alleviation or care of the condition requiring attention, on terms no less favourable than would apply to an Australian resident.

A RHCA patient may hold yellow-green RHCA Medicare Card (a lighter version of the green card). Not all persons entitled to care under a RHCA will hold a RHCA card.

The RHCA countries at September 2009 are:

- Finland
- Ireland
- Italy (Note 1)
- Belgium
- Malta (Note 1)
- New Zealand (Note 2)
- Norway
- Sweden
- The Netherlands
- United Kingdom (Note 3)

Note:

Persons from Italy and Malta are limited to the first six months of their visit only commencing on the date of arrival, except where a continuing course of treatment starts before and extends over the six-month limit.

New Zealand diplomats and their families are not included in the Australian/New Zealand RHCA and are therefore not eligible persons. For New Zealand residents, Medicare cover for private medical treatment was removed from September 1999. Medicare cards are no longer issued to New Zealand residents.

United Kingdom incorporates residents of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Persons from Belgium require a European Health Insurance card to enrol in Medicare. They are eligible until the expiry date indicated on the card, or the length of their authorised stay if earlier.

Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED)

152.6 PRS/2 User Reconciliation Report now also a request report

In the past, this report was triggered by the End-Of-Month (EOM) header. To improve the data validation process, health services can now balance their patient day statistics each time they send their data for PRS/2 processing.

PRS/2 users now have the option of requesting the PRS/2 User Reconciliation Report for each transmission. This new functionality was released on 11 December 2009.

This improved functionality applies for both public and private hospitals.

To request the User Reconciliation Report for each transmission to PRS/2:

Report Parameter: DDMMCCYY

Request Code: 10

This data item will be updated in the VAED manual, Section 6 – Request Reports.

152.7 VAED data submission timelines

Some HDSS helpdesk callers have requested clarification regarding VAED data submission timelines in view of data submission difficulties currently being experienced by some health services:

Sites are advised that the **deadlines for VAED data submission remain as published** in the [Victorian Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines 2009-2010, Conditions of Funding](#), item 6.8 pp 28-29.

The Policy and Funding Guidelines also state that

'For any period that the health service is unable to supply unit record data, the health service is required to submit aggregate data. Additional penalties may apply for failure to submit aggregate data when required.' (item 6.8, p. 29)

Accordingly, if health services are unable to submit patient level data by the published deadline, they are required to submit aggregate data via the [HealthCollect Portal](#).

Please also note item 152.14 in this Bulletin regarding the **closure of the portal between 4 – 10 January 2010** and instructions regarding submission of VAED aggregate data in January 2010.

Clinical Coding

152.8 ICD-10-AM/ACHI library file amendment

The age edits on the following procedure codes have been amended following the verification of a recent episode falling within the rejection age range.

ACHI Code	Block No	Code Description	Change						Specification
			Col D	Col E	Col F	Col G	Col H	Col I	
			age	LL	HH	2nd age	2nd LL	2nd HH	
3550300	1260	Insertion of intrauterine device [IUD]	3 4	00	10 14	4	11	14	Warn if patient between 0 and 14 years.
3550600	1260	Replacement of intrauterine device [IUD]	3 4	00	10 14	4	11	14	Warn if patient between 0 and 14 years.
3550602	1260	Removal of intrauterine device [IUD]	3 4	00	10 14	4	11	14	Warn if patient between 0 and 14 years.

Please ensure this amendment is reflected in the hospitals' reference file. The updated library file and library file full specifications are available for downloading at:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/reffiles/2009-10/libfile/libfil09.htm>

152.9 PICQ and PICQ VIC Online

Due to resource issues and delayed acquisition of data from several sites, the production of PICQ reports has been put on hold. Production is anticipated to begin again the New Year. We apologise for the inconvenience this may have caused to health services.

For any queries regarding PICQ or PICQ VIC Online please email the HDSS Help Desk:

HDSS.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au

152.10 DRG Version 6.0 specialty mapping table

HDSS has received several requests for a specialty mapping table for the current DRG grouper version 6.0. HDA advises that this table is in preparation and will be provided early in 2010. Health Services will be notified via the Bulletin as soon as the table is available.

Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS)

152.11 ESIS Manual 12th Edition 2009-10 released

The ESIS Manual 12th Edition for 2009-10 was published on the HDSS website on 9 December 2009.

It is available at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/esis/index.htm>

Please save the link in your bookmarks folder. No printed copies of manuals will be distributed. The manual can be accessed or downloaded from the HDSS website above.

Victorian Emergency Minimum Dataset (VEMD)

152.12 Re-instatement of Edits E001, E003, E005, E006, E007 & E010

Edits E001, E003, E005, E006, E007 and E010 were incorrectly removed from the VEMD manual with the publication of the VEMD manual 14th Edition. These edits have been re-instated in the VEMD manual 14th Edition Section 7 - Editing. An updated version of Section 7 – Editing was published on the [HDSS website](#) on 17 November 2009.

152.13 Reason for Transfer Correction

An error has been identified in the VEMD manual 14th Edition Reason for Transfer codeset.

The valid code for Other Reason was listed as 8 when it should have been 9. This has been corrected and the updated version was published on the HDSS website on 17 November.

The updated information is printed below for information.

Reason for Transfer

Code Set

Code	Descriptor
1	ICU bed not available
2	CCU bed not available
3	General bed not available
4	Specialty not available
5	Previous patient of destination hospital
6	Insured/Compensable
7	Patient preference
8 9	Other reason

AIMS/APET

152.14 HealthCollect portal maintenance closure

The HealthCollect portal at <http://www.healthcollect.vic.gov.au> will be unavailable for one week from **Monday 4 January to Sunday 10 January 2010 inclusive** due to scheduled maintenance and upgrade.

Services will resume on Monday 11 January 2010 at 9 am.

All health services that are using the HealthCollect portal to report aggregate data need to submit their data by close of business on Monday 11 January 2010 .

This is an exception to the usual data transmission requirements. For VAED data submission obligations, please see item 152.7 in this Bulletin.

Contact Details

The Health Information Section of the Hospital & Health Service Performance Division is responsible 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 Health Information Section produces the HDSS Bulletin on an ad hoc basis to provide:

- 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
- information on upcoming events.

HDSS website

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

HDSS Help Desk

Telephone (03) 9096 8141
Fax (03) 9096 7743
Email VAED/VINAH HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au
Email VEMD submit.vemd@health.vic.gov.au
Email ESIS ESIS.ESIS@health.vic.gov.au

HealthCollect Help Desk

Telephone (03) 9096 8595
Fax (03) 9096 7743
Email healthcollect.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au

For data requests from the health collections, contact

Health Information Provision Help Desk

Email VHIRS.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au