

# Bulletin

Health Data Standards and Systems

## Issue 158: 30 July 2010

Attention            Health Information Managers – For Action  
                          Clinical Coders – For Action  
                          VAED Software suppliers – For Action

The HDSS Bulletin is available in electronic format and can be viewed and downloaded from the HDSS website at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/bulletin/158-30072010.pdf>

It is important that relevant staff in your organisation read the HDSS Bulletin to stay informed of the latest changes or updates.

**To update your contact details**, please complete the [Application for Addition or Modification to HDSS Contacts List](#) on the [HDSS website](#).

If you do not have internet access, please contact the HDSS Help Desk on (03) 9096 8141 to obtain a hard copy of this bulletin.

## CLINICAL CODING AND CLASSIFICATION EDITION

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

- Coding and Classification changes for 1 July 2010
- Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards
- VIC-DRGs for 2010-11
- Data Quality Tools
- VAED reporting

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# Coding and casemix classifications

## 158.1 ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Edition for 2010–11

All separations on or after 1 July 2010 must be coded using:

- ICD-10-AM/ACHI Seventh Edition (and relevant errata) in accordance with the Seventh Edition Australian Coding Standards
- Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards effective 1 July 2010
- 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>

For the Seventh Edition, changes have been made to Australian Coding Standard 0001 *Principal Diagnosis* for the coding of obstetric cases. These changes may be problematic for the private sector and alternative coding directions may exist for this sector. For further information private sector coders should refer to the NCCC website at: <http://nccc.uow.edu.au/index.html>.

## 158.2 ICD-10-AM/ACHI Library file for 2010-11

The 2010-11 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/2010-11/libfile/libfil10.htm>

This version of the Library file has been updated with Seventh Edition codes. In addition the following amendments have been made on selected ICD-10-AM/ACHI codes:

- ACHI procedure codes requiring a procedure start date/time can be identified in the library file by code 4 *Procedure requires start date/time if first coded procedure* in column K Coding practices (procedures worksheet).
- The relevant designation of OR procedure (O) or Non-OR procedure (S) for the ACHI codes remains in keeping with AR-DRG Version 6.0.

Software suppliers and hospitals are advised to download the new version of the ICD-10-AM/ACHI Library File. Any further updates to the file during 2010-11 will be published in the HDSS Bulletin.

The Excel file has been zipped and password protected using the same password as last year. If you do not have, or have forgotten, the password, please contact the HDSS Help Desk via email ([HDSS.HelpDesk@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:HDSS.HelpDesk@health.vic.gov.au)).

The Victorian licence agreement only permits the Department to release the ICD-10-AM/ACHI Library file to Victorian hospitals, software vendors of Victorian hospitals and approved third party organisations working with the Department. The Victorian Library file is a modification of the National ICD-10-AM/ACHI ASCII files, which have been produced by the National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH). Responsibility for these files has been transferred to the National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC) from 1 July 2010. If you are not authorised to receive the Victorian Library file, you may contact the NCCC at the University of Wollongong on +61 2 4221 3555.

## 158.3 National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC)

Effective 1 July 2010, AR-DRG and ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS development will be undertaken by a new centre located at the University of Wollongong. The new centre is known as the National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC). Details regarding this centre can be found at: [http://chsd.uow.edu.au/ar\\_drg.html](http://chsd.uow.edu.au/ar_drg.html).

The NCCC expect to continue providing the services currently provided to coders through the NCCH. For updates on these services, please look at the NCCC website: <http://nccc.uow.edu.au/index.html>.

Two new committees have recently formed and will be providing advice to the NCCC. The committees are as follows:

### **DRG Technical Group**

This group provides advice to the National Casemix and Classification Centre on the development of content for the Australian-Refined Diagnosis Group (AR-DRG) classification. (Victorian representative: Daniel Borovnicar)

### **ICD Technical Group**

This group provides advice to the National Casemix and Classification Centre on the development of content for ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS. (Victorian Representative: Jennie Shephard)

## 158.4 NCCC Advice

The NCCC publishes casemix and coding advice in their Casemix and Coding Matters Newsletter. This newsletter can be accessed on the NCCC web page at: <http://nccc.uow.edu.au/productservices/casemixmatters/index.html>

Advice previously provided by the NCCH in Coding Matters is also available to be downloaded from this website.

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

## 158.5 Grouper Version and Mapping for 2010-11

Separations on or after 1 July 2010 will be grouped using AR-DRG Version 6.0.

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 NCCC – see web site: <http://nccc.uow.edu.au/productservices/ardrg/index.html>.

*The Victoria-Public hospitals and mental health services; Policy and Funding Guidelines 2010-11* provides further details about the funding model including the Victorian Cost Weights for WIES 17. The Policy and Funding Guidelines are available at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/hospitals.htm>

## 158.6 Notification of Grouper anomalies

The NCCC has set up a public submission process for modification to AR-DRGs. Details can be found at: <http://nccc.uow.edu.au/ardrg/publicsubmission/index.html>

Anomalies identified in AR-DRG version 6.0 can also be notified to the Victorian ICD Coding Committee, as the State can, in many instances, influence a faster resolution of problems or make local adjustments to grouper software as required.

## 158.7 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

### 158.8 Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards for 2010–11

Victorian Additions to the Australian Coding Standards for 2010–11 can be found at:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/icdcoding/index.htm>

The additions must be used in conjunction with the Australian Coding Standards for the Seventh Edition of ICD-10-AM/ACHI for use from 1 July 2010. The updates to this document are as follows:

- Vic 0030 *Organ and Tissue Procurement and Transplantation*: Details relating to points 1, 2a and 3 have been included in the Victorian addition to the Australian Coding Standards. There is also a name change for this standard from *Organ Procurement* to *Organ and Tissue Procurement and Transplantation*.
- Vic 0048 *Condition onset flag*: The instruction regarding the assignment of the P prefix for principal diagnosis in obstetric cases has been removed reflecting the amended Seventh edition ACS 0001 *Principal diagnosis* instruction for obstetric cases.

### 158.9 Victorian modifications to AR-DRGs for 2010-11

In 2010-11 hospitals will assign diagnosis and procedure codes using the Seventh Edition of ICD-10-AM and ACHI. For funding purposes these codes will be mapped back to Sixth Edition ICD-10-AM and ACHI and grouped to AR-DRG Version 6.0.

Only one adjustment will be made to the original AR-DRG 6.0 grouping, utilising the VIC-DRG 6.0 field prior to the calculation of WIES17. This adjustment will be for radiotherapy cases as follows:

#### Vic-DRG R64Z 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-DRGs 6.0s: B61A and B61B; and pre-MDC AR-DRGs 6.0s: A40Z, W60Z, W61A, W61B, S65A, S65B, S65C, B60A, B60B, B82A, B82B and B82C.

## Data quality tools

### 158.10 Admission Policy Information

The Department's Hospital admission policy can be found at:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vaed/index.htm>

Also provided on this web page are a series of Fact Sheets related to admission policy; a decision chart to assist hospitals to determine a patient's eligibility for admission and two procedure code lists. The procedure code lists are the Automatically Admitted Procedures List (AAPL) and the Not Automatically Qualified for Admission List (NAQAL). These lists will be used to analyse hospital admission practices during 2010-11. Results of this analysis will be used to amend the content of the lists and to provide feedback to hospitals. Hospitals and Health Services can make submissions for changes to these lists at any time during 2010-11 and changes may be made on an ad hoc basis during the year. However from 2011-12 changes will only be made to the lists on an annual basis. Any queries regarding the admission policy, including suggestions for changes to the procedure code lists should be sent to the HDSS Help Desk at: [HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au)

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

The Department of Health holds a Statewide licence for PICQ 2008. Public and private hospitals that wish to run the PICQ software internally can apply for a free download of the software from the DH website:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/picq/index.htm>

The Department has also made individual hospital reports available via the PICQ VIC Online web site for 2009-10. 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>

The development of PICQ has remained with the NCCH and it is anticipated that a 2010 version of PICQ will soon be available. Please watch the HDSS website for updates which will be posted as soon as they become available.

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 [HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au)

## VAED reporting for 2010–11

### 158.12 VAED Submission Timelines for 2010-11

A hospital may transmit data to the VAED as frequently as desired, but must meet the minimum requirements as set out in the *Victoria-Public hospitals and mental health services; Policy and Funding Guidelines 2010-11* 'General Conditions of Funding' which is available at:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/hospitals.htm>

### 158.13 Changes to PRS/2 Reporting

Details of changes to PRS/2 and the VAED for 2010-11 are available in the Specifications for Revisions document at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/>

## 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) and Admitted Patient Entry & Transmission System (APET)
- 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 Help Desk
- 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](mailto:HDSS.Helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au)  
Email VEMD [submit.vemd@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:submit.vemd@health.vic.gov.au)  
Email ESIS [ESIS.ESIS@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:ESIS.ESIS@health.vic.gov.au)

### HealthCollect Help Desk

Telephone (03) 9096 8595  
Fax (03) 9096 7743  
Email [healthcollect.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au](mailto: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](mailto:VHIRS.helpdesk@health.vic.gov.au)