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| Specifications for revisions to the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 2023-24 |
| December 2022 |
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# Executive Summary

The revisions for the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 2023-24 are summarised below:

New data element

* Gender – reporting optional in 2023-24, mandatory from 1 July 2024

Amend existing data elements

* Amend Sex to Sex at birth, remove codes 3 Indeterminate, 4 Other, and add 5 Another term
* Reporting of Surgeon Identifier becomes mandatory from 1 July 2023

# Introduction

Each year the Department of Health review the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) to ensure that the data collection supports the department’s business objectives, including national reporting obligations, and reflects changes in hospital funding and service provision arrangements for the coming financial year.

Comments provided by the health sector in response to *Proposals for Revisions to the Elective Surgery Information System for 2023-24* and *Proposals for revisions across multiple data collections (ESIS, VAED, VEMD and VINAH) for 2023-24* have been considered, and where possible, suggestions have been accommodated, resulting in changes to or withdrawal of some proposals.

The revisions set out in this document are complete as at the date of publication. Where further changes are required during the year, for example to reference files such as the postcode locality file, data validation rules or supporting documentation, these will be advised via the HDSS Bulletin.

An updated ESIS manual will be published in due course. Until then, the current ESIS manual and subsequent HDSS Bulletins, together with this document, form the data submission specifications for 2023-24.

Victorian health services must ensure their software can create a submission file in accordance with the revised specifications and ensure reporting capability is achieved to maintain compliance with reporting timeframes set out in the relevant Department of Health policy and funding guidelines*.*

## Orientation to this document

* New data elements are marked as (new).
* Changes to existing data elements are highlighted in green
* Redundant values and definitions relating to existing elements are ~~struck through~~.
* Comments relating only to the specifications document appear in *[square brackets and italics].*
* Validations to be changed are marked \* when listed as part of a data element or below a validation table.
* Anticipated changes are shown under the appropriate manual section headings.

# Outcome of proposals

**Proposal 1 - Extend January reporting deadline to 15th of the month**

Proposal withdrawn.

**Proposal 2A - Add Gender**

The proposal proceeds.

**Proposal 6 and 7 – Amend Sex to Sex at birth**

The proposal proceeds.

**Proposal - Amend ESIS scope to include reporting of Gastroscopy and Colonoscopy**

The proposal is pending.

# New data element Gender

## Section 3a Data Definitions – data elements

## Gender (new)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | How a person describes their gender, as represented by a code |
| **Label** | Gender |
| **Reported in** | Patient extract |
| **Reported for** | All patient level records  Optional in 2023-24  Mandatory in 2024-25 |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for any episode |
| **Code set** | **Code Descriptor**  1 Man, or boy, or male  2 Woman, or girl, or female  ~~3~~ Non-binary  4 Different term  5 Prefer not to answer  9 Not stated |
| **Reporting guide** | [Gender](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/750032) is a social and cultural concept. It is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience as a man, boy, woman, girl, or non-binary person.  The terms [sex](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/750030) and gender are interrelated, and are often used interchangeably, however they are distinct concepts:   * Sex is understood in relation to sex characteristics. Sex recorded at birth refers to what was determined by sex characteristics observed at birth or in infancy * Gender is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression, and experience.   A person's gender may differ from their sex and may also differ from what is indicated on their legal documents.  A person's gender may stay the same or can change over the course of their lifetime.  **1 Man, or boy, or male**  A person who describes their [gender](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/750032) as man, or boy, or male.  **2 Woman, or girl, or female**  A person who describes their gender as woman, or girl, or female.  **3 Non-binary**  A person who describes their gender as non-binary.  Non-binary is an umbrella term describing gender identities that are not exclusively male or female  **4 Different term**  A person who describes their gender as a term other than man/boy/male, woman/girl/female or non-binary.  **5 Prefer not to answer**  A person who prefers not to respond on how they describe their gender.  **9 Not stated or inadequately described**  Includes:  Question unable to be asked such as when the patient is unconscious or too unwell. |
| **Validations** | S442 Gender code invalid |

Administration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | To measure useage of services and identify needs and gaps in provision.  To inform development of targeted programs and funding of services. |
| **Principal data users** | Multiple internal and external data users |
| **Collection start** | July 2023 |
| **Definition source** | Person—gender, code X (METEOR 741842) |
| **Code set source** | Australian Bureau of Statistics Alternative Code system for Gender, Standard for Sex, Gender, Variations of Sex Characteristics and Sexual Orientation Variables, 2020. |

*[Implementation notes*

*The* [*Standard for Sex, Gender, Variations of Sex Characteristics and Sexual Orientation Variables, 2020*](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/standard-sex-gender-variations-sex-characteristics-and-sexual-orientation-variables/latest-release) *available at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/standard-sex-gender-variations-sex-characteristics-and-sexual-orientation-variables/latest-release> has been developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to standardise the collection and dissemination of data relating to sex, gender, variations of sex characteristics and sexual orientation. This document provides some useful advice regarding collecting Sex and Gender data.]*

## Section 5 Compilation and submission

## Patient Extract structure (amend)

| Order | Note | Data element | Label | Field size | Layout/code set |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | M | Patient Identifier | Patient\_Identifier | 10 | XXXXXXXXXX |
| 2 | M | Date of Birth | Date\_Of\_Birth | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 3 | M | Date of Birth Accuracy Code | DOB\_Accuracy\_Code | 3 | NNN |
| 4 | M | Indigenous Status | Indigenous\_Status | N/A | code from code set |
| 5 | M,3 | Sex at birth | Sex | N/A | code from code set |
| 6 | 1 | Medicare Number | Medicare\_Number | 11 | NNNNNNNNNNN or blank |
| 7 | M | Medicare Suffix | Medicare\_Suffix | Between 1 and 3 characters | AAA, AA, A’A, AA’, A, A-A, AA- |
| 8 | M | Postcode | Postcode | N/A | code from code set |
| 9 | M | Locality | Locality | N/A | code from code set |
| 10 | 2 | Gender | Gender | N/A | code from code set |

Note:

M Mandatory

1 Report when made available by the patient

2 Optional for patients registered on the waiting list from 1 July 2023, mandatory from 1 July 2024

3 Code from Sex at birth code set to be reported for all patients registered on the waiting list from 1 July 2023

## Section 6 Validation

## S442 Gender code invalid (new)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | Gender code reported is invalid |
| Remedy | Correct Gender code and re-submit  Refer to: Section 3a Gender |

# Amend Sex to Sex at birth

## Section 3a Data Definitions – data elements

## Sex at birth (amend)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | The sex of the person as recorded at birth or infancy.  The distinction between male, female, and others who do not have biological characteristics typically associated with either the male or female sex, as represented by a code. |
| **Label** | Sex |
| **Reported in** | Patient extract |
| **Reported for** | All patient level records |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for any episode |
| **Code set** | Code Descriptor  1 Male  2 Female  5 Another term  ~~3 Indeterminate~~  ~~4 Other~~ |
| **Reporting guide** | The term 'sex' refers to a person's biological characteristics. A person's sex is usually described as being either male or female; some people may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.  Sex recorded at birth refers to what was determined by sex characteristics observed at birth or infancy.  Hospitals should refrain from making assumptions about a person's sex based on indicators such as their name, voice or appearance  **1 Male**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as male.  **2 Female**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as female.  **5 Another term**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as another term (not male or female).  ~~A person’s sex is usually described as either being male or female. Some people may have both male and female characteristics. Sex is assigned at birth and is relatively fixed.~~  ~~A person’s sex may change during their lifetime as a result of procedures known alternatively as sex change, gender reassignment or transgender reassignment. Throughout this process, which may be over a considerable period of time, sex could be recorded as either Male or Female.~~  **~~3 Indeterminate~~**  ~~Used for infants with ambiguous genitalia, where the biological sex, even following genetic testing, cannot be determined. This code should not generally be used on data collection forms completed by the respondent.~~  ~~Code 3 can only be assigned for infants aged less than 90 days.~~  **~~4 Other~~**  ~~Includes:~~   * ~~An intersex person, who because of a genetic condition was born with reproductive organs or sex chromosomes that are not exclusively male or female~~ * ~~A person who identifies as neither male nor female~~   ~~Excludes:~~  ~~Transgender, transsexual and chromosomally indeterminate individuals who identify with a particular sex (male or female).~~ |
| **Validations** | S091 Sex at birth code invalid\*  ~~S093 Sex Code Indeterminate or Other~~\* |

Administration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | To enable analyses of service utilisation and epidemiological studies  ~~Used for demographic analyses of service utilisation~~ |
| **Principal users** | Multiple internal and external data users ~~Department of Health~~ |
| **Collection start** | July 1997 |
| **Version** | 2 effective July 1999  3 effective July 2004  4 effective July 2017  5 effective July 2023 (Sex updated to Sex at birth) |
| **Definition source** | ~~Department of Health~~ Person—sex, code X (METEOR 741686) |
| **Code set source** | ~~NHDD (Department of Health modified)~~ Person—sex, code X (METEOR 741686) |

[*Implementation notes*

*Hospitals that require codes 3 and/or 4 for their own purposes should continue to use these codes for internal data collection, and map to code 5 – Another term for reporting purposes.]*

## Section 5 Compilation and submission

Refer to [Patient Extract structure (amend)](#_Patient_Extract_structure)

## Section 6 Validation

## S091 Sex at birth code invalid (amend)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | A Sex at birth code has not been reported or is invalid |
| Remedy | Correct, or allocate Sex at birth code and re-submit  Refer to: Section 3a Sex at birth |

## ~~S093~~ ~~Sex code Indeterminate or Other~~ (delete)

# Reminder – reporting of Surgeon Identifier becomes mandatory in 2023-24

## Surgeon Identifier (amend)

### Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) number of the surgeon referring the patient on to an elective surgery waiting list |
| **Label** | Surgeon\_ID |
| **Field size** | 13 |
| **Reported in** | Episode extract |
| **Reported for** | All waiting list episodes  ~~Optional for all episodes in 2022-23~~ |
| **Reported when** | The waiting list is first registered |
| **Reporting guide** | Report Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) number of the surgeon referring the patient on to an elective surgery waiting list |
| **Validations** | S437 Surgeon Identifier invalid\* |

### Administration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | To analyse waiting list metrics such as time to surgery, clearance rates, categorisation for clinical urgency, not ready for surgery rates |
| **Principal data users** | Department of Health |
| **Collection start** | July 2019 |
| **Definition source** | Department of Health |
| **Code set source** | Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) |

### Section 5 Compilation and submission

### Episode Extract structure (amended)

| Order | Note | Data element | Label | Field size | Layout/code set |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18 | 8, M | Surgeon Identifier | Surgeon\_ID | 13 | XXXXXXXXXXXXX |

Note:

M Mandatory

8, M ~~Optional in 2022-23~~, Mandatory for episodes registered from 1 July 2023

## Section 6 Validation

## S437 Surgeon Identifier invalid (amend)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | The Surgeon Identifier has not been reported, or is not 13 characters in length |
| Remedy | Correct the Surgeon Identifier and re-submit |