

NHS Data Model and Dictionary



Type: Data Dictionary Change Notice
Reference: 1665
Version No: 1.0
Subject: Person Marital Status
Effective Date: Immediate
Reason for Change: Note removed
Publication Date: 9 August 2018

Background:

The Data Element "PERSON MARITAL STATUS" has a note stating:

Commissioning Data Set Messages

Following the recommendation of the Data Protection Registrar, PERSON MARITAL STATUS should not be recorded by providers in the Commissioning Data Sets except in respect of the psychiatric specialties in the Admitted Patient Care Commissioning Data Set. The data item remains in the data standards since it will be needed by the provider.

The "Security Issues and Patient Confidentiality" page states:

Following the recommendations of the Data Protection Registrar, Providers should not record PERSON MARITAL STATUS in any CDS Type, except in respect of the psychiatric specialties in the Admitted Patient Care CDS Types, where it will continue to be recorded.

The Office of the Data Protection Registrar has closed and the Data Protection Registrar is now the Information Commissioner. This information is therefore out of date.

This Data Dictionary Change Notice (DDCN) updates the NHS Data Model and Dictionary as follows:

- Removes the note from the Data Element "Person Marital Status"
- Removes the information from the "Security Issues and Patient Confidentiality" page
- Renames the Attribute "PERSON MARITAL STATUS CODE" to "PERSON MARITAL STATUS" to make it consistent with other similar items.

These changes do not affect Information Standards as they do not change the definitions or Data Element name.

To view a demonstration on "How to Read an NHS Data Model and Dictionary Change Request", visit the NHS Data Model and Dictionary help pages at: http://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/Flash_Files/changerequest.htm.

Note: if the web page does not open, please copy the link and paste into the web browser.

Summary of changes:

Supporting Information

[SECURITY ISSUES AND PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY](#) Changed Description

Class Definitions

[PERSON MARITAL STATUS](#) Changed Attributes

Attribute Definitions

[PERSON MARITAL STATUS](#) renamed from [PERSON MARITAL STATUS CODE](#) Changed Name

Data Elements

[PERSON MARITAL STATUS](#) Changed Description

Date: 9 August 2018

Sponsor: Alex Elias, Information Representation Services Director, NHS Digital

Note: New text is shown with a blue background. Deleted text is crossed out. Retired text is shown in grey. Within the Diagrams deleted classes and relationships are red, changed items are blue and new items are green.

SECURITY ISSUES AND PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A. Removal of name and address where the NHS Number is present

- From 1 April 1999, [PATIENT NAME](#) and [PATIENT USUAL ADDRESS](#) (not [POSTCODE OF USUAL ADDRESS](#)) must be removed from all Commissioning Data Sets where a valid [NHS NUMBER](#) is present. This applies to all nationally defined

Commissioning Data Set data and any additional locally agreed flows from service providers to commissioning bodies.

- A valid [NHS NUMBER](#) is one that has passed the check digit calculation on entry into the source system. If an [NHS NUMBER](#) is not valid (i.e. does not conform with the check digit algorithm) then [PATIENT NAMES](#) and [PATIENT USUAL ADDRESSES](#) should not be removed, as the reliability of the [NHS NUMBER](#) will not be known.
- The [NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE](#) is a mandatory part of the Commissioning Data Set. [PATIENT NAME](#) and [PATIENT USUAL ADDRESS](#) should be removed when a valid [NHS NUMBER](#) is present, even if the [NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE](#) does not have a status of 01, *Number present and verified*.

B. Marital Status

- Following the recommendations of the Data Protection Registrar, Providers should not record [PERSON MARITAL STATUS](#) in any [CDS Type](#), except in respect of the psychiatric specialities in the Admitted Patient Care CDS Types, where it will continue to be recorded.

C. Sensitive data

- The [NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE](#) is a mandatory part of the Commissioning Data Set. [PATIENT NAME](#) and [PATIENT USUAL ADDRESS](#) should be removed when a valid [NHS NUMBER](#) is present, even if the [NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE](#) does not have a status of 01, *Number present and verified*.

B. Sensitive data

- The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 as amended by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Disclosure of Information) Act 1992 imposes statutory restrictions on the disclosure of information about identifiable individuals in connection with certain infertility treatments.
- The latest approved list of codes which can be used to identify the relevant [PATIENT](#) record in which the patient-identifiable data are to be omitted from the [CDS Types](#) can be accessed via [Technology Reference Data Update Distribution \(TRUD\)](#). In these cases the [NHS NUMBER](#), [LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER](#), [PATIENT NAMES](#), [POSTCODE OF USUAL ADDRESS](#) and [PERSON BIRTH DATE](#) should be omitted from the CDS Types.
- From Commissioning Data Set Version 6-2, records where the patient-identifiable data has been withheld should be submitted using the PATIENT IDENTITY - WITHHELD IDENTITY STRUCTURE data group in CDS types where identification is carried. This data group allows only the [NHS NUMBER STATUS INDICATOR CODE](#) (the actual value held on source systems should be used), [ORGANISATION](#)

[CODE \(RESIDENCE RESPONSIBILITY\)](#) and [WITHHELD IDENTITY REASON](#) to flow. The [WITHHELD IDENTITY REASON](#) allows [Health Care Providers](#) to inform their Commissioners why a record has been anonymised. Note that the same rules apply to the additional PATIENT IDENTITY structures relating to Mother and Baby in the Delivery and Birth CDS types.

- Other statutory restrictions on the disclosure of [PATIENT](#) information do not prohibit the disclosure to individuals involved with the treatment and prevention of certain specific diseases (HIV/AIDS and venereal diseases) in the population.
- **All records containing patient identifiable information, other than those covered by the Sensitive Data section, should be treated as sensitive.** [Organisations](#) may continue to exchange records containing [NHS NUMBER](#), [POSTCODE OF USUAL ADDRESS](#) and [PERSON BIRTH DATE](#) in these cases, but receiving [Organisations](#) must ensure that only those staff with legitimate need have access to this information, e.g. public health departments, and strictly on a need to know basis. No-one should have unrestricted access unless fully justified in accordance with the principles of the Caldicott Committee Report.
- Where [PATIENT](#) level data is required for other purposes within an [Organisation](#), it should be anonymised/aggregated prior to disclosure by someone with legitimate access. If this is not practicable, local protocols defining which [CDS Types](#) are particularly sensitive (including, but not necessarily restricted to HIV/AIDS and venereal disease) agreed by the [Organisation](#) Caldicott Guardian, should be put in place and identifiers stripped from these records.
- Your Caldicott Guardian will be able to advise you further on all issues relating to patient confidentiality.
- Where appropriate, further information about confidentiality is contained within the notes for individual data items.

PERSON MARITAL STATUS

Change to Class: Changed Attributes

Attributes of this Class are:

~~PERSON MARITAL STATUS CODE~~

PERSON MARITAL STATUS

PERSON MARITAL STATUS_ renamed from PERSON MARITAL STATUS CODE

Change to Attribute: Changed Name

- Changed Name from Data_Dictionary.Attributes.P.Person.PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS_CODE to Data_Dictionary.Attributes.P.Person.PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS

PERSON MARITAL STATUS

Change to Data Element: Changed Description

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Format/Length: | an1 |
| National Codes: | See PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS_CODE |
| National Codes: | See PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS |
| Default Codes: | 8 - Not applicable, i.e. not a psychiatric episode 9 - Not known |

Notes:

~~[PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS](#) is the same as attribute [PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS_CODE](#).~~

~~Commissioning Data Set Messages~~

~~Following the recommendation of the Data Protection Registrar, [PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS](#) should not be recorded by providers in the [Commissioning Data Sets](#) except in respect of the psychiatric specialties in the Admitted Patient Care Commissioning Data Set. The data item remains in the data standards since it will be needed by the provider.~~

[PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS](#) is the same as attribute [PERSON_MARITAL_STATUS](#).

For enquiries about this Change Request, please email information.standards@nhs.net

