

# NHS Data Model and Dictionary



**Type:** Data Dictionary Change Notice  
**Reference:** 1734  
**Version No:** 1.0  
**Subject:** Consultation Medium Used Update  
**Effective Date:** Immediate  
**Reason for Change:** Change to National Code definition  
**Publication Date:** 30 July 2019

## Background:

The Attribute "CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED" is out of date as it refers to "Telemedicine web camera" which is not a current term.

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

- Attribute "CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED": renames "Telemedicine web camera" to "Telemedicine"
- Creates a new NHS Business Definition of "Telemedicine"
- Adds the link to other items that contain "Telemedicine"
- Renames the Class "COMMUNICATION CONTACT INFORMATION" to "COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD" to match the description of "A contact method for an Organisation or a PERSON, for a particular COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD".

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: [https://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/Flash\\_Files/changerequest.htm](https://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

[OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCE CONSULTANT  
TELEMEDICINE](#)

Changed Description  
New Supporting Information

### Class Definitions

Changed Description, Name

[COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD](#) renamed  
from [COMMUNICATION CONTACT INFORMATION](#)

### **Attribute Definitions**

[CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED](#)

Changed Description

[FIRST ATTENDANCE](#)

Changed Description

**Date:** 30 July 2019

**Sponsor:** Nicholas Oughtibridge, Head of Clinical Data Architecture, 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.

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### **OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCE CONSULTANT**

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Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

An [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#) is a [CARE CONTACT](#).

An ~~[Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#) is an attendance at which a [PATIENT](#) is seen by or has contact with (face to face or via telephone/telemedicine) a [CONSULTANT](#), in respect of one referral, that is not a visit to the home of a [PATIENT](#) for which a fee is payable under paragraph 140 of the Terms and Conditions of Service.~~ An [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#) is an attendance at which a [PATIENT](#) is seen by or has contact with (face to face or via telephone/Telemedicine) a [CONSULTANT](#), in respect of one referral, that is not a visit to the home of a [PATIENT](#) for which a fee is payable under paragraph 140 of the Terms and Conditions of Service.

For an [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#), a [CONSULTANT](#) includes a member of the [CONSULTANT](#)'s firm or locum for such a member.

An [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#) will be part of a [Consultant Out-Patient Episode](#).

If a [PATIENT](#) is seen by a [CONSULTANT](#) at a [Consultant Clinic](#) then this will be a [Clinic Attendance Consultant](#). An attendance may involve more than one [PERSON](#) (e.g. a family). The number of attendances to be recorded should be the number of [PATIENTS](#) for whom the particular [CONSULTANT](#) has identifiable individual records and which will be maintained as a result of the attendance.

A visit to the home of a [PATIENT](#) made at the instance of a hospital or specialist to review the urgency of a proposed admission to hospital, or to continue to supervise treatment initiated or prescribed at a hospital or clinic is covered by this definition.

Out-Patient Attendance Consultant also includes a PATIENT being seen by a CONSULTANT from a different MAIN SPECIALTY CODE during a Consultant Episode (Hospital Provider) in circumstances where there is no transfer of responsibility for the care of the PATIENT.

During the Out-Patient Attendance Consultant, a number of PATIENT DIAGNOSES and Patient Procedures may be recorded.

A series of Out-Patient Attendance Consultant will form a Consultant Out-Patient Episode, generated from a single referral. Note that it is possible to have two Consultant Out-Patient Episodes with the same CONSULTANT for different clinical conditions, if two referrals are made. An attendance may involve more than one PERSON - for example, a family. Out-Patient Attendance Consultant can take place outside a clinic session, and can take place at the PATIENT's normal place of residence.

A PATIENT attending a WARD for examination or care will be counted as an Out-Patient Attendance Consultant if he/she is seen by a doctor. If they are only seen by a NURSE, they are a Ward Attendance.

An Out-Patient Attendance Consultant should also be recorded where a PATIENT is seen by a CONSULTANT from a different MAIN SPECIALTY CODE during a Consultant Episode (Hospital Provider) where there is no transfer of responsibility for the care of the PATIENT. For example, a PATIENT who is admitted to hospital under a Gastroenterology specialty following an overdose may be seen while still in hospital by a psychiatrist who has been asked to assess their mental condition. The assessment by the psychiatrist should be recorded as an Out-Patient Attendance Consultant.

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## TELEMEDICINE

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Change to Supporting Information: New Supporting Information

Telemedicine is a COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD.

Telemedicine is the use of telecommunication and information technology for the purpose of providing remote health assessments and therapeutic interventions.

This could include video or voice messaging services on mobile phones, computers and tablets.

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## COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD\_ renamed from COMMUNICATION CONTACT INFORMATION

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Change to Class: Changed Description, Name

A contact method for an [Organisation](#) or a [PERSON](#), for a particular [COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD](#) (eg facsimile, telephone, e-mail or website). A contact method for an [Organisation](#) or a [PERSON](#) for a particular [COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD](#) (e.g. telephone, [Telemedicine](#), e-mail).

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**COMMUNICATION CONTACT METHOD\_ renamed from COMMUNICATION CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Change to Class: Changed Description, Name

- Changed Description
- Changed Name from  
Data\_Dictionary.Classes.C.COMMUNICATION\_CONTACT\_INFORMATION to  
Data\_Dictionary.Classes.C.COMMUNICATION\_CONTACT\_METHOD

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**CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED**

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Change to Attribute: Changed Description

[CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED](#) identifies the communication mechanism used to relay information between the [CARE PROFESSIONAL](#) and the [PERSON](#) who is the subject of the consultation, during a [CARE ACTIVITY](#).

The telephone or telemedicine consultation should directly support diagnosis and care planning and must replace a face to face [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#), [Clinic Attendance Nurse](#) or [Clinic Attendance Midwife](#), types of [CARE ACTIVITY](#). A record of the telephone or telemedicine consultation must be retained in the [PATIENT](#)'s records. The consultation should directly support diagnosis and care planning and must replace a face to face [Out-Patient Attendance Consultant](#), [Clinic Attendance Nurse](#) or [Clinic Attendance Midwife](#), types of [CARE ACTIVITY](#).

A record of the consultation must be retained in the [PATIENT](#)'s records.

Telephone contacts solely for informing [PATIENTS](#) of results are excluded.

*National Codes:*

- 01 Face to face communication
- 02 Telephone
- ~~03 Telemedicine web camera~~
- 03 [Telemedicine](#)
- 04 Talk type for a [PERSON](#) unable to speak
- 05 Email \*\*
- 06 Short Message Service (SMS) - Text Messaging \*\*\*
- 07 On-line Triage\*\*\*\*

98 Other (not listed) \*

Notes:

- National Code 03 has been updated in [Data Dictionary Change Notice 1734 "Consultation Medium Used Update"](#). The Data Set specifications that contain this item will be updated in the next version of the Information Standard where it is not already correct.
- \* National Code 98 'Other' is **only** used for the [Community Services Data Set](#), [Maternity Services Data Set](#), [Mental Health Services Data Set](#) and [Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity Data Set](#). It is **NOT** valid in any other data set including Commissioning Data Set version 6-2.
- \*\* National Codes 05 'Email' is **NOT** valid for Commissioning Data Set version 6-2.
- \*\*\* National Code 06 'Short Message Service (SMS) - Text Messaging' is **NOT** valid for Commissioning Data Set version 6-2 and the [HIV and AIDS Reporting Data Set](#).
- \*\*\*\* National Code 07 'On-line Triage' is **only** used for the [GUMCAD Sexually Transmitted Infection Surveillance System Data Set](#). It is **NOT** valid in any other data set including Commissioning Data Set version 6-2.

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**FIRST ATTENDANCE**

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Change to Attribute: Changed Description

An indication of whether a [PATIENT](#) is making a first attendance or contact; or a follow-up attendance or contact and whether the [CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED](#) national code was '[Face to face communication](#)' or '[Telephone](#)' or '[Telemedicine web camera](#)'. An indication of whether a [PATIENT](#) is making a first attendance or contact; or a follow-up attendance or contact and whether the [CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED](#) national code was '[Face to face communication](#)' or '[Telephone](#)' or '[Telemedicine](#)'.

A first attendance is the first in a series, or only attendance of an [APPOINTMENT](#) which took place regardless of how many previous [APPOINTMENTS](#) were made which did not take place for whatever reason. All subsequent attendances in the series which take place should be recorded as follow-up.

*National Codes:*

- 1 First attendance face to face
- 2 Follow-up attendance face to face
- 3 ~~First telephone or telemedicine consultation~~
- 4 ~~Follow-up telephone or telemedicine consultation~~
- 3 [First telephone or Telemedicine consultation](#)
- 4 [Follow-up telephone or Telemedicine consultation](#)
- 5 Referral To Treatment Clock Stop Administrative Event\*

Note: \*Referral to Treatment Clock Stop Administrative Event allows the [Secondary Uses Service](#) to build accurate [PATIENT PATHWAYS](#) for the reporting of 18 weeks activity. It flows through the [CDS V6-2 Type 020 - Outpatient Commissioning Data Set](#) structure. See [Referral To Treatment Clock Stop Administrative Event](#).

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For enquiries about this Change Request, please email [information.standards@nhs.net](mailto:information.standards@nhs.net)

