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## DIRECTIONS

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# NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

## The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Genetic Testing Rates Information System) Directions 2015

The National Health Service Commissioning Board gives the following Directions to the Health and Social Care Information Centre in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 254(1), (3) and (6), section 255(6) and section 260(4)(a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In accordance with section 254(5) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the National Health Service Commissioning Board has consulted the Health and Social Care Information Centre before giving these Directions.

### Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Directions may be cited as The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Genetic Testing Rates Information System) Directions 2015 and shall come into force on 12 October 2015.

2. In these Directions—

“The 2012 Act”	means the Health and Social Care Act 2012 <sup>1</sup> ;
“The Board”	means the National Health Service Commissioning Board <sup>2</sup> ;
“Devolved Authorities”	has the meaning set out in section 275 of the 2012 Act;
“Genetic Testing Rates Data”	means the data collected through the operation of the Genetic Testing Rates Information System;

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<sup>1</sup> 2012 c7

<sup>2</sup> The National Health Service Commissioning Board was established by section 1H of the National Health Service Act 2006 (2006 c 41.), and operates as NHS England.

“HSCIC”	means the Health and Social Care Information Centre <sup>3</sup> ;
“Notification of Reporting Requirements”	Means a document entitled “The UKGTN Genetic Testing Rates Notification of Reporting Requirements” that is revised and approved by the UKGTN Clinical & Scientific Advisory Group, and sent to the HSCIC annually;
“Relevant Organisations”	means UKGTN member laboratories in England and Scotland;
“Technical Specification”	means the Technical Specification: Genetic Testing, Technical Specification for submission of the Genetic Testing data collection to HSCIC, Clinical Indicators Version 1.0 annexed to these Directions at Annex A or any subsequent amended version of the same document that supersedes version 1.0;
“UKGTN”	means the United Kingdom Genetic Testing Network.

### **Establishment of the Genetic Testing Rates Information System**

3. – (1) Pursuant to its powers under sections 254(1), 254(6) and 255(6) of the 2012 Act, the Board directs the HSCIC to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the information described in sub-paragraph (2) from the Relevant Organisations to be known as “the Genetic Testing Rates Information System”.
  - (2) The information referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is described in the Submission Templates section of the Technical Specification.
  - (3) In relation to Relevant Organisations in England, pursuant to its powers under sections 254(1) and 254(6) the Board directs HSCIC to carry out the activities described in sub-paragraph (1):
    - (a) in particular by requiring those Relevant Organisations to provide to HSCIC the information described in sub-paragraph (2) in accordance with the Technical Specification.
  - (4) In relation to Relevant Organisations in Scotland, pursuant to its powers under section 255(6) of the 2012 Act the Board directs the HSCIC to carry out the activities described in sub-paragraph (1) by:
    - (a) requesting those Relevant Organisations to provide to HSCIC the information described in sub-paragraph (2) in accordance with the Technical Specification; and

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<sup>3</sup> The Health and Social Care Information Centre is a body corporate established under section 252(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012

- (b) collecting that information where and to the extent that it is made available by those Relevant Organisations.
- (5) The Board directs the HSCIC to analyse the Genetic Testing Rates Data as the HSCIC determines is necessary –
- (a) to populate the postcode of residence where this is absent when the Genetic Testing Rates Data is collected; and
  - (b) to generate the reports specified in the Notification of Reporting Requirements (as amended from time to time).
- (6) Pursuant to its powers under section 260(4)(a) of the 2012 Act the Board directs the HSCIC to publish the reports generated as directed by sub-paragraph (5)(b), in accordance with the schedule specified in the Notification of Reporting Requirements.

#### **Basis for these Directions**

- 4. In accordance with section 254(3) of the 2012 Act, the Board confirms that it is necessary or expedient for it to have the information which will be obtained through the HSCIC complying with these Directions in relation to the Board's functions in connection with the provision of NHS Services.
- 5. In relation to the collection of data from Relevant Organisations in Scotland, the Board is exercising its power under section 255(6) of the 2012 Act on the basis that
  - (1) The Scottish Ministers have made a request to the HSCIC under section 255(1) of the 2012 Act to carry out the activities specified in paragraph 3(1) of these Directions in relation to the data specified in paragraph 3(2) which can be obtained from Relevant Organisations within Scotland and the request confirms that the information which would be obtained by carrying out their request to the HSCIC is information which it is necessary or expedient for them to have in relation to the exercise of their functions, or carrying out of activities, in connection with the provision of health care in Scotland.

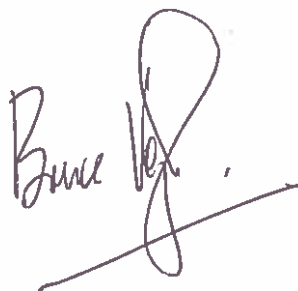
#### **Fees and Accounts**

- 6. – (1) Pursuant to section 254(7) of the 2012 Act, HSCIC is entitled to charge the Board a reasonable fee in respect of the cost of HSCIC complying with these Directions and the Board acknowledges such right and agrees to meet such reasonable fee charged by HSCIC.
- (2) The HSCIC must keep proper accounts, and proper records in relation to the accounts, in connection with the Genetic Testing Rates Information System.

## Review of these Directions

7. These directions will be reviewed when the Board approves changes to the Technical Specification. This review will include consultation with the HSCIC as required by section 254(5) of the 2012 Act (powers to direct the Information Centre to establish information systems).

Signed by authority of the NHS Commissioning Board



**Sir Bruce Keogh  
Caldicott Guardian**

[INSERT DATE]

### **Annex A – Technical Specification: Genetic Testing, Technical Specification for submission of the Genetic Testing data collection to HSCIC, Clinical Indicators Version 1.0**



Genetic Testing data  
collection Technical S1

### **Annex B – Request to HSCIC from NHS National Services Scotland**



2015-08-28 NHS  
Scotland Letter -UKG