



Department of Health

Rob Shaw
Acting Chief Executive,
NHS Digital
1 Trevelyan Square, Boar Lane
Leeds
LS1 6AE

Dear Rob

I am writing to provide a Direction to NHS Digital, formerly known as the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) and hereafter referred to as NHS Digital, to establish and operate an informatics system for the collection of sexual and reproductive health data.

This Direction is given in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 254(1) and (6), 260(2)(a), 261(3), 274(2) and 304(9), (10) and (12) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012¹ and Regulation 32 of the National Institute for Health and Social Care Excellence (Constitution and Functions) and the Health and Social Care Information Centre (Functions) Regulations 2013².

In accordance with section 254(2)(a) of the Act, the Secretary of State considers that it is in the interests of the health service in England for this Direction to be given.

This Direction is to be known as the Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity Dataset (SRHAD) Direction, and comes into force on 1 February 2017. The Direction will cover the collection of de-identified person-level data from providers of sexual and reproductive health services in England.

Providers of sexual and reproductive health services include: family planning services; community contraception services; Contraception and Sexual Health (CASH) services; integrated GUM and SRH Services; and young people's services (e.g. Brook Advisory Centres).

Under section 254 of the 2012 Act, NHS Digital is required to:

- Collect data relating to de-identified, person-level information on contraception and other activities provided by sexual and reproductive health services (See Annex 1 for full list of data items to be collected).
- Collect the data on an annual basis.
- Following validation and analysis publish the data in the form of a National Statistics report.
- Disseminate the data in an anonymised form to the following: Public Health England.

Please accept this letter as a direction given under subsection (1) of section 254 of the 2012 Act to the NHS Digital to exercise the functions in relation to the informatics support service for the collection of data from providers of sexual and reproductive health services in England. The

¹ 2012 c.7

² S.I. 2013/259

purpose of the data collection is to fulfil the Secretary of State for Health's statutory duty to protect health and address inequalities, and promote the health and wellbeing of the nation. In addition, Public Health England (PHE) will use SRHAD data to support these public health functions with regard to sexual and reproductive health.

NHS Digital will have regard to and comply with the Directions to NHS Digital to process Type 2 objections.

In accordance with s254(5), NHS Digital has been consulted before this Direction has been given.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Davies'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Director name: Mark Davies

Director title: Director of Population Health

SRHAD Data Items to be Collected

Field Name	Description	NHS Data Dictionary Data Element
Organisation ID	Organisation Code of the Service	ORGANISATION IDENTIFIER (CODE OF PROVIDER)
Clinic ID	Clinic (service) ID code	ORGANISATION SITE IDENTIFIER (OF TREATMENT)
Patient ID	Local patient ID used to identify a patient	LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER
Gender	Gender	PERSON STATED GENDER
Age	Age at attendance date in years	AGE AT ATTENDANCE DATE
Ethnicity	Patient's ethnic category	ETHNIC CATEGORY CODE
LSOA of Residence	Lower layer super output area of residence of the patient	LOWER LAYER SUPER OUTPUT AREA (PERSON RESIDENCE)
LA of Residence	Local Authority (LA) of patient residence	ONS LOCAL GOVERNMENT GEOGRAPHY AREA CODE (LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT).
GP Practice Code	It is the CODE of the GP Practice that the patient is registered with.	GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE CODE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)
Date of Attendance	Date of Attendance	ATTENDANCE DATE
Initial Contact	The patients first ever contact with this service	INITIAL CONTACT INDICATOR
Consultation Medium Used	Identifies the communication mechanism used to relay information between the care professional and the person who is the subject of consultation.	CONSULTATION MEDIUM USED
Location Type	Where the patient consultation/treatment took place	ACTIVITY LOCATION TYPE CODE
Contraception Method Status	Type of Contraception Consultation	CONTRACEPTION METHOD STATUS
Contraception Main Method	Main method of contraception of the patient	CONTRACEPTION PRINCIPAL METHOD
Contraception Other Method 1	Supporting contraception method	CONTRACEPTION OTHER METHOD
Contraception Other Method 2	Supporting contraception method	CONTRACEPTION OTHER METHOD
Contraception Method Post Coital 1	Emergency Contraception	CONTRACEPTION METHOD POST COITAL

Field Name	Description	NHS Data Dictionary Data Element
Contraception Method Post Coital 2	Emergency Contraception	CONTRACEPTION METHOD POST COITAL
SRH Care Activity 1	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY
SRH Care Activity 2	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY
SRH Care Activity 3	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY
SRH Care Activity 4	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY
SRH Care Activity 5	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY
SRH Care Activity 6	Sexual & Reproductive Health Care Activity received by patient	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY