

Construction of the Recommended Coding Document

Initiation

Health Intelligence already had a Recommended Read Code document, used for several years and augmented with the release of each new Child Health Vaccination. This is also incorporated into our Vaccination & Immunisation Reporting, and for example, is used to the report on the quality of data recording within and across GP Practices. With the migration of clinical coding to SNOMED CT, we initiated an update to the document.

Scope

Given the intended use of the new Recommended Codes for Routine Childhood Vaccination 2018 Schedule, namely London-wide use, it was important to consult on the codes to be adopted.

Construction

Health Intelligence's Information Analytics Department reviewed the following reference data to construct the relevant codes:

- The Data Export Definitions Document, which defines all codes for all vaccinations
- Internal knowledge of the GP Practice Vaccination Claims process requirements (for some customers we construct the GP Practice Claim for their Vaccination activities)
- The advice from NHS England, TPP, EMIS and Vision regarding the new 6in1 codes
- The Technical Requirements for 2018 19 GMS Contract Changes Version 3 (Section 6 concerns Vaccination Programmes)

[Technical requirements document.](#)

Initial Version and Consultation

The initial version of the Document was circulated for comment to:

- Several Internal personnel
- NELFT
- Your Healthcare
- System C
- Quality Medical Systems (QMS)
- NHS England (London and South West).

Consultation did not include any CCG or GP Practice representatives or GP Practice Clinical System suppliers. This was deliberate, given the known issues with some of the templates that are in use, the use of "local codes" by some in preference to the standard vaccination codes (as evidenced by the fact it takes over 20 pages to list all possible Vaccination codes that Practice could use).

Following the distribution of the initial version, the main review comments on the initial version included:

- The identification of a transposed code
- The identification of an incorrect descriptor
- A challenge that the wrong code was being used, this was refuted, and evidence provided
- The recommendation, that in terms of the SNOMED Codes, as well as the ConceptID the DescriptionID should also be presented.
- Include not only the Pre-school, but also the School Age vaccinations (they we already included, but a new section head added to highlight
- Move the discontinued codes to the end of the vaccination list.

Final Version

The final version was updated to apply all of the changes required or corrections recommended by the review comments following the consultation. It was also updated with the support of our Marketing Team to adopt the same look and feel as the Vaccination Schedule. Care was taken to choose an appropriate font, to ensure lower case and capital letters and zero's and letters "O" could be clearly distinguished.

Acknowledgements

The contribution from internal reviewer and the external reviewers detailed above are acknowledged.

Future Version Control

With each new release of a childhood vaccination, this document should be updated
With each amendment to the Technical Requirements for the GMS Contract, the document should be reviewed.

Distribution

The intention is to release this document across London, for use in improving the consistency and quality of childhood vaccination data. It will be used to form a London-wide GP Practice Clinical System template for the recording of Vaccination data. Local template development may also make use of this document, its classification has been set to "Public" to support its use.