HES 2009-10\(^1\) Inpatient Data Quality Note

The data quality note will be updated in the event of issues arising post-publication. A summary of changes made will appear in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Summary of update</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Update - Age at CDS Activity Date / Age on Admission issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/10/2010</td>
<td>V1: 2009-10 Inpatient Data Quality Note published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following issues have been identified in the 2009-10 data:

**Augmented care periods / Critical care data**

The augmented care period data has been replaced by the critical care dataset. Impact: the coverage and quality of the augmented care period data within HES is uncertain. The fields have been removed as a result.

Adult critical care data for 2008/09 is now available and information can be accessed on [HESonline](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=1298)

Adult critical care data for 2009/10 is scheduled to be published in early 2011.

**Age at CDS Activity Date / Age on Admission**

There are unusually high counts in both fields for the values ‘8’ and ‘9’ which do not correspond with HES-derived age fields such as ‘Age at End of Episode’. This is due to technical issues when providers submit data.

Impact: these fields have been suppressed due to the high level of inaccurate data. It is recommended that HES-derived Age fields are used instead.

**HES derived Age fields**

Due to a technical problem when submitting data, the following provider submitted high volumes of null records in the ‘Date of Birth’ field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider with high volumes of null records in the Date of Birth field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organisation name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Essex PCT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Impact: Please note this will affect any Age field that is derived from ‘Date of Birth’ for these providers. Please consult the [HES Data Dictionary](http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=289) for a full list of derived fields.

\(^1\) Data submitted to SUS by 21 May 2010.
Sextuplets / Nonuplets

There are large numbers (approx 23,000) of delivery records containing spurious birth tails. Instead of the one or two delivery tails that should be attached to the delivery record, typically 6 delivery tails and on occasion 9 delivery tails are present. Birth records are not affected.

Impact: large numbers of delivery records incorrectly representing high order multiple births are present in the data.

Caution is advised when using the above records.

Birth record postcodes

Any ‘Birth’ (episode type is 3) or ‘Other Birth’ (episode type is 6) submitted have a blank postcode. This is due to changes introduced in DSCN 35/07 [http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/dscn/dscn2007/dscn35-2007.pdf].

Impact - Postcode is used to determine geographical information along residential lines. Without it the only residential fields that can be derived are Current and Historic PCT of residence, Current and Historic StHA of residence, Health Authority of Residence, Regional Office of residence, and Government office of the regions. It will not be possible to derive any information of any other residential information – output areas, indices of multiple deprivation, electoral authority.

Furthermore, postcode can be used to help determine PCT of responsibility such the quality of this field will be affected. Caution is advised when viewing any geographical data for birth records.

There are approximately 37,000 ‘Birth’ Episodes that do have postcodes. These are as a result of Auto clean Rule 150 which checks if a ‘Birth’ episode has incorrectly been submitted as a different episode type. See more details on Auto clean Rule 150 on HESonline [http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryId=376].

HRG

HRG Version 3.5

Due to customer requests HES still derives this field and this will be reviewed periodically. However, for 2009-10 onward HRG4 is being used for PbR and changes in HRG3.5 are no longer supported.

Impact: this field’s data should therefore be interpreted with caution.

PCT of Treatment / PCT of Main Provider

Please note that the field ‘PCT of Treatment’ (PCTTREAT) has been renamed to ‘PCT of Main Provider’.

Impact: Any existing reports in the HES Interrogation System (Business Objects) using this field will still run but will still show the old name. The name will not change unless users access the edit query function. For any new reports created users will see ‘PCT of Main Provider’.
Extract date not consistent across all providers.

The majority of the 2009-10 data reflects interchanges submitted to SUS before 5 pm on the 21 May 2010.

Some data for the following organisations was extracted from SUS on the 23 June 2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation name</th>
<th>Org. code</th>
<th>Months affected Partially by submission</th>
<th>Months affected Fully by submission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust</td>
<td>RGQ</td>
<td>Apr - May</td>
<td>Sep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan - Mar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>RDE</td>
<td>Apr – May</td>
<td>Jun - Mar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Known provider issues: coverage issues

Birmingham Women’s NHS Foundation Trust (RLU)  
Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (RBQ)  
King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJZ)

Birmingham Women’s NHS Foundation Trust (RLU), Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (RBQ) and King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJZ) submitted some of their data without a valid provider code. Without a valid provider code the data cannot be included in the publication. The HES Data Quality Team endeavours to include the data in the publication extract by a provider mapping process detailed on HESonline [http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=1113]

Unfortunately due to a processing issue, the mapping has been unable to be carried out.

Impact: The impact to the total records of the providers above is relatively small. The mapping would have added the following number to each provider’s total:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation name</th>
<th>Org. code</th>
<th>Months affected Partially by submission</th>
<th>Total no. of records affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Women's NHS Foundation Trust*</td>
<td>RLU</td>
<td>*Unfinished Episodes</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust</td>
<td>RBQ</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>RJZ</td>
<td>Apr - Feb</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Known provider issues: coverage issues**

The following organisations have shortfalls; their data should be interpreted with caution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation name</th>
<th>Org. code</th>
<th>Months affected</th>
<th>Approx. total no. of records missing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bournemouth and Poole Teaching Hospital</td>
<td>5QN</td>
<td>Jan - Mar</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuffield Health</td>
<td>NT2</td>
<td>Apr - Mar</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spire Healthcare</td>
<td>NT3</td>
<td>Apr – Mar</td>
<td>29,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Known provider issues: general**

**South London Healthcare NHS Trust (RYQ)**
**The Lewisham Hospital NHS Trust (RJ2)**
**Luton and Dunstable Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RC9)**

South London Healthcare Trust (RYQ) and The Lewisham Hospital NHS Trust (RJ2) have unusually high counts in the field ‘Gestation length’ (Gestat1) for low gestation length values. This is due to an issue with generation of fields for submission to SUS / HES.

Luton and Dunstable Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RC9) has unusually high counts in the field ‘Gestation length’ (Gestat1) for low gestation length values. This as a result of this data being converted into values representing days rather weeks in the submission process.

Impact: Caution is advised when using the fields from these trusts.

**Ipswich Hospital NGS Trust (RGQ)**

Ipswich Hospital NGS Trust (RGQ) has very low counts for Birth and Delivery episodes (Episode Type = ‘2’ or ‘3’). This is due to the trust having submission problems with these episode types.

Impact: Caution is advised when using the fields from this trust.

**King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJZ)**
**Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RD3)**

Due to technical problems recording the data, King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJZ) and Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RD3) have high percentage of Delivery Episodes (Episode Type = ‘2’) where the actual location of delivery is recorded at home.

Impact: Caution is advised when using the fields from these trusts.

**Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RFF)**
**Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (RXK)**
**Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RDK)**

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RFF), Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (RXK) and Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RDK) have high percentages of their maternity data submitted with the Status of Person conducting delivery recorded as ‘Other’. This is where it's neither a Hospital doctor, GP nor a midwife.

This is due to these providers having technical problems recording the data.

Impact: Caution is advised when using the fields from these trusts.