HES 2010-11 Month 6¹ 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>Version control</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Summary of update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/12/2010</td>
<td>Month 6 Inpatient Data Quality Note published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note this data is provisional and subject to changes and revisions each month. It should be treated as an estimate until the final National Statistics annual publications.

The following issues have been identified in the Month 6 (M6) 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The augmented care period data has been replaced by the critical care dataset.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. Work is underway to try to resolve this issue and the fields will be made available when they are of sufficient quality.

Impact: these fields have been removed until the issue has been resolved.

**Delivery place type (actual)**

There are many episodes recorded for the field ‘delivery place type (actual)’ with a value of ‘1’ (a domestic address) when the field ‘episode type’ is ‘2’ or ‘3’ (delivery or birth). It is unclear which field has been incorrectly recorded and so we urge caution when analysing these two conditions together.

Impact: This issue is being investigated and this field’s data should therefore be interpreted with caution.

¹ Data submitted to SUS by 22 October 2010.
Birth record postcodes

All ‘Birth’ (episode type is 3) or ‘Other Birth’ (episode type is 6) records submitted have blank postcodes. 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. As such, the quality of this field will be affected. Caution is advised when viewing any geographical data for birth records.

There are some ‘Birth’ Episodes that do have postcodes. These are as a result of Autoclean Rule 150 which checks if a ‘Birth’ episode has incorrectly been submitted as a different episode type. To see more details on Autoclean Rule 150, please go to 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 onwards 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.

HRG

SUS generated HRG
SUS generated Core Spell HRG
SUS generated HRG version number
SUS generated spell id

Due to processing issues during the generation of the HES extract, the above fields have been found to be incomplete with large numbers of null values for some providers within the data extract.

Impact: This is currently being investigated. Caution is advised when using these fields.
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>Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust</td>
<td>RVN</td>
<td>Jun - Aug</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkshire West PCT</td>
<td>5QF</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>RT1</td>
<td>Jul - Aug</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridgeshire PCT</td>
<td>5PP</td>
<td>Apr - Aug</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE PCT</td>
<td>5NW</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eccleshill NHS Treatment Centre</td>
<td>NTA01</td>
<td>Jul - Aug</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Manchester Surgical Centre</td>
<td>NT714</td>
<td>May - Aug</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Keynes PCT</td>
<td>5CQ</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hall Hospital</td>
<td>NVC09</td>
<td>Apr - Jul</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northamptonshire Teaching PCT</td>
<td>5PD</td>
<td>Apr - Aug</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>RH5</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutton and Merton PCT</td>
<td>5M7</td>
<td>May - Aug</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Berkshire Independent Hospital</td>
<td>NVC02</td>
<td>Apr - Jul</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Known provider issues:

Gestation Length

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 is 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.
Sextuplets

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RAE)
East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust (RWH)
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (RYJ)

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RAE), East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust (RWH) and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (RYJ) have large numbers of delivery records containing spurious birth tails due to a system fault. Instead of the one or two delivery tails that should be attached to the delivery record, typically 6 delivery tails are present. Birth records are not affected.

Impact: For these organisations, a large numbers of delivery records incorrectly representing high order multiple births are present in the data.

Caution is advised when using the above records.