

Sponsor:	Implementation Date: 1 October 2007
Department of Health	Subject: Data Standards: Earliest Reasonable Offer Date
DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE	
<p>This paper informs users of changes to the NHS Data Model, NHS Data Dictionary and Commissioning Data Sets</p>	
Summary: Delivering an 18 week patient pathway from GP referral to the start of treatment by the end of 2008 is a key objective of the NHS. Some patients may choose to delay the start of their treatment or activities prior to the start of their treatment. This DSCN introduces a new data element EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE which will enable commissioners to identify such delays to their patients' treatment. The data item is included in Commissioning Data Sets version 6, from 1st October 2007. Collection and submission of the data is optional, but commissioner and provider organisations may be unable to understand the extent of any delay which is due to a patients choice of a later date for an appointment or admission, if this data is unavailable. Specifically for Genito-Urinary Medicine attendances, the Earliest Reasonable Offer Date will be the earliest date offered to the patient, so that 48 hour waiting times are not affected.	
Datasets / return affected: Commissioning Data Sets Version 6	
Impact of Change:	
Service: Major	System Suppliers: Major
<p>The NHS Information Standards Board (ISB) is responsible for approving information standards. The ISB output related to the assurance and sign-off of this standard can be found at – www.isb.nhs.uk/docs/dscn09-2007output.pdf.</p> <p>The ISB submission documents relating to the approval of this standard can be found at http://www.isb.nhs.uk/docs/CDSV6-EROD-ISB-submission-2007.pdf</p> <p>More information about the ISB can be found at www.isb.nhs.uk Data set change notices can be found at www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/dscn</p>	

Change Request

NHS Connecting for Health

NHS Data Model and Dictionary Service

Reference: Change Request 827
Version No: 0.9
Subject: Introduction of Earliest Reasonable Offer Date
Type of Change: Changes to NHS Data Standards
Effective Date: 1 October 2007
Reason for Change: To introduce the data element EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE.

Background:

Delivering an 18 week patient pathway from GP referral to the start of treatment by the end of 2008 is a key objective of the NHS.

Some patients may choose to delay the start of their treatment or activities prior to the start of their treatment. This DSCN introduces a new data element EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE which will enable commissioners to identify such delays to their patients' treatment. Collection and submission of the data is optional, but commissioner and provider organisations may be unable to understand the extent of any delay which is due to a patients choice of a later date for an appointment or admission, if this data is unavailable.

The existing Data Dictionary definition of reasonableness for OFFERED FOR ADMISSION DATE and APPOINTMENT DATE (offering the patient a minimum of two appointments on different days, with at least three weeks notice before the first offered appointment) will continue to operate alongside the 18 weeks definition until the Department of Health publish further guidance. This existing reasonableness criteria is used in the submission of statutory returns Admitted Patient Flows Data Set and Admitted Patient Stocks Data Set (formerly KH07).

As for the cancer target, it is for local commissioners and providers to agree on reasonableness rules that make sense in the context of the way services are commissioned and provided. It is clear that the current definition of "at least three weeks notice and a minimum of two dates" will be inappropriate when average Referral to Treatment Periods could last around nine to ten weeks. The Department will publish reasonableness principles and guidance for 18 weeks when the tolerance is set in 2007.

In the meantime, the principles for the cancer targets may be helpful as a guide. These can be found in the Department of Health document Cancer Waiting Targets: A Guide (version 5), supported by DSCN 22/2002. This document is available from the DH publications website at www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsandStatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidanceArticle/fs/en/?CONTENT_ID=4140975&chk=8wF1U/

Specifically for Genito-Urinary Medicine attendances, the Earliest Reasonable Offer Date will be the earliest date offered to the patient, so that 48 hour waiting times are not affected.

Summary of changes:

Data Elements

[EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE](#) New Data Element

Date: 9 March 2007

Sponsor: Nick Chapman, National Director, 18 Weeks, Recovery and Support Unit, Department of Health

Note: New text is shown with a blue background. Deleted text is crossed out. Within the Diagrams deleted classes and relationships are red, changed items are blue and new items are green.

EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE

Change to Data Element: New Data Element

EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE

Format/length:	see DATE
National Codes:	
Default Codes:	

Notes:

For an APPOINTMENT this is the earliest reasonable APPOINTMENT DATE OFFERED.

For an Elective Admission this is the the earliest reasonable OFFERED FOR ADMISSION DATE. Note that the reasonableness criteria defined in data element OFFERED FOR ADMISSION DATE are still valid for statutory returns Admitted Patient Flows Data Set and Admitted Patient Stocks Data Set (formerly KH07). These reasonableness criteria are different to those required for EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE

Where, for any reason, a PATIENT cancels an APPOINTMENT or an OFFER OF ADMISSION the EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE for the rearranged APPOINTMENT or OFFER OF ADMISSION will be the EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE of the cancelled APPOINTMENT or OFFER OF ADMISSION.

Where, for any reason, any PROVIDER IN SERVICE AGREEMENT cancels and re-arranges an APPOINTMENT or an OFFER OF ADMISSION, the EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE for the re-arranged APPOINTMENT or Elective Admission will be the date of the earliest reasonable offer made following the cancellation.

Staff will need to make a judgement on whether an offer is reasonable. They will need to take into account the priority of the appointment. It is not appropriate for a national definition of a reasonable offer - it will depend on the patient's individual circumstances.

Where a patient accepts an offer, the offer is a reasonable offer.

For the first Genitourinary Clinic Attendance in a Genitourinary Episode the EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATE will be the earliest date offered to the patient.

This data element is also known by these names:

Context	Alias
plural	EARLIEST REASONABLE OFFER DATES

Enquiries concerning the NHS data model and dictionary should be directed to the NHS Data Model and Dictionary Service
Email: datastandards@nhs.net

Enquiries concerning the referral to treatment monthly monitoring
18 weeks team
Department of Health
Room 4E57,
Quarry House,
Quarry Hill,
LEEDS
LS2 7UE

Email: data18weeks@dh.gsi.gov.uk