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| Specifications for revisions to the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 2024-25 |
| December 2023 |
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# Executive Summary

The revisions for the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 2024-25 are summarised below:

**Amendments to existing data elements**

* Amend existing data element **Sex to Sex at Birth** and:
  + remove codes 3 Indeterminate, 4 Other
  + add code 5 Another term

The proposal to amend data element Sex to Sex at Birth was originally scheduled for 2023-24, but was subsequently deferred and will now be implemented in 2024-25.

* Reporting of the existing data element **Gender** will be **mandatory** from 2024-25.
* Reporting of Surgeon ID remains optional

# Introduction

Each year the Department of Health review the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) to ensure that the data collection supports the department’s business objectives, including national reporting obligations, and reflects changes in hospital funding and service provision arrangements for the coming financial year.

Comments provided by the health sector in response to *Proposals for Revisions to the Elective Surgery Information System for 2024-25* and *Proposals for revisions across multiple data collections for 2024-25* have been considered, and where possible, suggestions have been accommodated, resulting in changes to or withdrawal of some proposals.

The revisions set out in this document are complete as at the date of publication. Where further changes are required during the year, for example to reference files such as the postcode locality file, data validation rules or supporting documentation, these will be advised via the HDSS Bulletin.

An updated ESIS manual will be published in due course. Until then, the current ESIS manual and subsequent HDSS Bulletins, together with this document, form the data submission specifications for 2024-25.

**Victorian health services must ensure their software can create a submission file in accordance with the revised specifications and ensure reporting capability is achieved to maintain compliance with reporting timeframes set out in the relevant Department of Health policy and funding guidelines.**

## Orientation to this document

* Changes to existing data elements are highlighted in green
* Redundant values and definitions relating to existing elements are ~~struck through~~.
* Comments relating only to the specifications document appear in *[square brackets and italics].*
* Validations to be changed are marked \* when listed as part of a data element or below a validation table.
* Changes are shown under the appropriate manual section headings.

# Outcome of proposals

**Proposal 8 Remove Surgeon Identifier**

Decision not to proceed. Reporting to remain optional in 2024-25.

The decision to implement changes to key datasets in 2024-25 was based on a priority ranking, with only those proposals considered critical approved. Some reporting guide updates were also approved. All other proposals for changes for 2024-25 have been placed on hold.

# Amend Sex to Sex at birth

## Section 3a Data Definitions – data elements

## Sex at birth (amend)

### Specification

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| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | The sex of the person as recorded at birth or infancy.  The distinction between male, female, and others who do not have biological characteristics typically associated with either the male or female sex, as represented by a code. |
| **Label** | Sex |
| **Reported in** | Patient extract |
| **Reported for** | All patient level records |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for any episode |
| **Code set** | Code Descriptor  1 Male  2 Female  5 Another term  ~~3 Indeterminate~~  ~~4 Other~~ |
| **Reporting guide** | The term 'sex' refers to a person's biological characteristics. A person's sex is usually described as being either male or female; some people may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.  Sex recorded at birth refers to what was determined by sex characteristics observed at birth or infancy.  Hospitals should refrain from making assumptions about a person's sex based on indicators such as their name, voice or appearance  **1 Male**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as male.  **2 Female**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as female.  **5 Another term**  Persons whose sex at birth or infancy was recorded as another term (not male or female).  ~~A person’s sex is usually described as either being male or female. Some people may have both male and female characteristics. Sex is assigned at birth and is relatively fixed.~~  ~~A person’s sex may change during their lifetime as a result of procedures known alternatively as sex change, gender reassignment or transgender reassignment. Throughout this process, which may be over a considerable period of time, sex could be recorded as either Male or Female.~~  **~~3 Indeterminate~~**  ~~Used for infants with ambiguous genitalia, where the biological sex, even following genetic testing, cannot be determined. This code should not generally be used on data collection forms completed by the respondent.~~  ~~Code 3 can only be assigned for infants aged less than 90 days.~~  **~~4 Other~~**  ~~Includes:~~   * ~~An intersex person, who because of a genetic condition was born with reproductive organs or sex chromosomes that are not exclusively male or female~~ * ~~A person who identifies as neither male nor female~~   ~~Excludes:~~  ~~Transgender, transsexual and chromosomally indeterminate individuals who identify with a particular sex (male or female).~~ |
| **Validations** | S091 Sex at birth code invalid\* |

### Administration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | To enable analyses of service utilisation and epidemiological studies  ~~Used for demographic analyses of service utilisation~~ |
| **Principal users** | Multiple internal and external data users ~~Department of Health~~ |
| **Collection start** | July 1997 |
| **Version** | 2 effective July 1999  3 effective July 2004  4 effective July 2017  5 effective July 2024 (Sex updated to Sex at birth) |
| **Definition source** | ~~Department of Health~~ Person—sex, code X (METEOR 741686) |
| **Code set source** | ~~NHDD (Department of Health modified)~~ Person—sex, code X (METEOR 741686) |

[*Implementation notes*

*Hospitals that require codes 3 and/or 4 for their own purposes should continue to use these codes for internal data collection, and map to code 5 – Another term for reporting purposes.]*

## Section 5 Compilation and submission

## Patient Extract structure (amend)

| Order | Note | Data element | Label | Field size | Layout/code set |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | M | Patient Identifier | Patient\_Identifier | 10 | XXXXXXXXXX |
| 2 | M | Date of Birth | Date\_Of\_Birth | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 3 | M | Date of Birth Accuracy Code | DOB\_Accuracy\_Code | 3 | NNN |
| 4 | M | Indigenous Status | Indigenous\_Status | N/A | code from code set |
| 5 | M,3 | Sex at birth | Sex | N/A | code from code set |
| 6 | 1 | Medicare Number | Medicare\_Number | 11 | NNNNNNNNNNN or blank |
| 7 | M | Medicare Suffix | Medicare\_Suffix | Between 1 and 3 characters | AAA, AA, A’A, AA’, A, A-A, AA- |
| 8 | M | Postcode | Postcode | N/A | code from code set |
| 9 | M | Locality | Locality | N/A | code from code set |
| 10 | 2 | Gender | Gender | N/A | code from code set |

M Mandatory

2 ~~Optional~~ Mandatory for patients registered on the waiting list from 1 July 2024 ~~2023, mandatory from 1 July 2024~~

3 Code from Sex at birth code set to be reported for all patients registered on the waiting list from 1 July 2024

## Patient ODS File Structure (XXXX\_YY\_MM\_DD\_ODS\_P.txt) (amend)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Data Item | Label | Field size | Layout/Code set |
| Patient Identifier | Patient\_Identifier | 10 | XXXXXXXXXX |
| Medicare Number | Medicare\_Number | 11 | NNNNNNNNNNN or blank |
| Medicare Suffix | Medicare\_Suffix | Between 1 and 3 characters | AAA, AA, A’A, AA’, A, A-A, AA- |
| Date of Birth | Date\_Of\_Birth | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| Sex at birth | Sex | N/A | code from code set |
| Indigenous Status | Indigenous\_Status | N/A | code from code set |
| Postcode | Postcode | N/A | code from code set |
| Locality | Locality | N/A | code from code set |
| Gender | Gender | N/A | code from code set |

## Section 6 Validation

## S091 Sex at birth code invalid (amend)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | A Sex at birth code has not been reported or is invalid |
| Remedy | Correct, or allocate Sex at birth code and re-submit  Refer to: Section 3a Sex at birth |

# Reporting of Gender mandatory in 2024-25

## Section 3a Data Definitions – data elements

## Gender (amend)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | How a person describes their gender, as represented by a code |
| **Label** | Gender |
| **Reported in** | Patient extract |
| **Reported for** | All patient level records  ~~Optional in 2023-24~~  Mandatory in 2024-25 |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for any episode |
| **Code set** | **Code Descriptor**  1 Man, or boy, or male  2 Woman, or girl, or female  ~~3~~ Non-binary  4 Different term  5 Prefer not to answer  9 Not stated |

*[no change to remainder of data element]*

## Section 6 Validation

## S442 Gender code invalid (amend)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | Gender code has not been reported or is invalid |
| Remedy | Correct Gender code and re-submit  Refer to: Section 3a Gender |

# Reporting of Surgeon Identifier remains optional in 2024-25