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| Victorian Alcohol and Drug Collection (VADC)  VADC Bulletin 2024-25 |
| Edition 32: 5 December 2024 |
| **VADC Bulletins must be read in conjunction with the *VADC Data Specification*, available at** [VADC documentation - health vic](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/funding-and-reporting-aod-services/vadc-documentation) <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/funding-and-reporting-aod-services/vadc-documentation> |

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# VADC annual changes for 2025-26

As previously advised, the VADC annual changes process for 2025-26 was suspended, with approval from the VADC Data Custodian in September 2024. Therefore the S*pecifications for revision to VADC for 2025-26* is not required.

However, a reminder for service providers to review and adjust your local client management systems for the financial year rollover for 2025-26 validation XML23 (Section 6 Edit/Validation Rules - Table 5.a Data Element edit/validation rules):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ID | XML Logic Description | XML Logic file description | Source | Status |
| XML23 | Submission Reporting Period prior to cut-off date.  ~~Current cut-off date >=01012025 and Reporting Period date <072024~~ | Reporting period is earlier than the annual cut-off date. | VADC Compilation and Submission Specification | File load fail |

To reflect the change to the 2025-26 consolidation cut-off date, the validation logic must be updated as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ID | XML Logic Description | XML Logic file description | Source | Status |
| XML23 | Submission Reporting Period prior to cut-off date.  Current cut-off date >=01012026 and Reporting Period date <072025 | Reporting period is earlier than the annual cut-off date. | VADC Compilation and Submission Specification | File load fail |

The department will update the following VADC specifications for 2025-26 and plans to publish these by May 2025:

* VADC Data Specification 2025-26
* VADC Compilation and Submission Specification 2025-26
* VADC XSD Schema 2025-26

Apart from the update to validation XML23 we do not anticipate any material changes to the specifications or XSD schema for 2025-26. If you have any questions about the VADC annual changes for 2025-26, please email: [vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:vadc_data@health.vic.gov.au) <vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au>

# Consolidation date for VADC 2023-24

A reminder that the final VADC consolidation date for 2023-24 is **1st January 2025**. 2023-24 financial year data will not be accepted past this consolidation due date.

If you have any queries about this please email [vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:vadc_data@health.vic.gov.au) <vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au>

# Correction of data submission errors

A reminder that service providers are responsible for ensuring VADC data submitted to the department is a true and accurate representation of actual service activity. Please check the *validation feedback report* after each file submission and if there are errors, please correct the errors and resubmit the file promptly.

Note: Only error-free data will be accepted into the department’s VADC database.

Please refer to *Section 2.6 Data assurance* from the [VADC Data Specification 2024-25](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/vadc-data-specification-2024-25_0.docx)<https://www.health.vic.gov.au/funding-and-reporting-aod-services/vadc-documentation>.

If you have any queries about the VADC data submission compliance, please email [vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:vadc_data@health.vic.gov.au) <vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au>

# Nil reportable activity submission

If there is no reportable service activity, nor open Service Events, for a reporting period, a blank file submission that includes outlet code, reporting period and extract date is still required.

Please refer to *Section 5.1.6 Submission criteria* from the [VADC Compilation and Submission Specification 2024-25](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/vadc-compilation-and-submission-specification-2024-25.docx) <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/funding-and-reporting-aod-services/vadc-documentation>.

For further technical information on the XML format for a blank submission file, please refer to *Section 9.1 No activity submission for reporting period.*

If you have any queries about the VADC data submission compliance, please email [vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:vadc_data@health.vic.gov.au) <vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au>

# Reporting ACSO Identifier

Please report the correct ACSO Identifier and ensure the ACSO Identifier is 7 digits long, as per Section 5.7.1 of the *VADC Data Specification 2024-25*:

### 5.7.1 Referral—ACSO identifier–N(7)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Identifying and definitional attributes | | | | | | | |
| Definition | | | A numerical identifier that uniquely identifies each referral from ACSO. This is the ACSO-COATS event ID. | | | | |
| Value domain attributes | | | | | |
| Representational attributes | | | | | |
| Representation class | | | Identifier | Data type | Number |
| Format | | | N(7) | Maximum character length | 7 |
| Supplementary values | | Value | Meaning | | |
|  | | 9999999 | not stated/inadequately described | | |
| Data element attributes | | | | | | | |
| Reporting attributes | | | | |
| Reporting requirements | Conditional –  Mandatory for forensic referrals IN and OUT | | | |
| Collection and usage attributes | | | | | | | |
| Guide for use | | | ACSO identifier is required for all forensic referrals which have been entered on the Penelope CMS.  All ACSO identifier codes must be represented using seven digits. Any four, five or six-digit ACSO Identifier codes must include leading zeroes to pad to seven digits.  Record the ACSO-COATS event ID of all forensic clients.   * This will be relevant for all referrals that are made out and accepted by treatment service provider.   Record the ACSO-COATS event ID of the incoming referrals of forensic client.   * Only those that result in a service event should be recorded.   The supplementary value can be used temporarily when the ACSO-COATS event ID is not able to be immediately obtained, or is illegible.  Note: *events reported with the supplementary value may not be counted as a forensic service event for the purposes of performance reporting.*  Use null when referral is not for a forensic client. | | | | |

If you have any questions about reporting the ACSO Identifier to VADC, please email: [vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:vadc_data@health.vic.gov.au) <vadc\_data@health.vic.gov.au>

# Funded activity letters for 2024-25

The department’s AOD Performance and Commissioning team in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Division has advised that funded activity letters for this financial year will only be issued where there has been new funding provided, or where changes have occurred to funding or associated targets. Where ongoing funding arrangements have not changed, new letters will not be issued.

If you have any questions about the funded activity letters, please email [aod.enquiries@health.vic.gov.au](https://encoded-592c9deb-987b-4562-aa3c-9fa3d37d83e9.uri/mailto%3aaod.enquiries%40health.vic.gov.au%2520%253caod.enquiries%40health.vic.gov.au%253e) <aod.enquiries@health.vic.gov.au>

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