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| Specifications for revisions to Elective Surgery Information System for 2025-26 |
| December 2024 |
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Contents

[Executive Summary 5](#_Toc185932185)

[Introduction 5](#_Toc185932186)

[Orientation to this document 5](#_Toc185932187)

[Outcome of proposals 6](#_Toc185932188)

[Specifications for changes from 1 July 2025 7](#_Toc185932189)

[Add NDIS Participant Identifier 7](#_Toc185932190)

[Section 3a Data definitions – data elements 7](#_Toc185932191)

[NDIS Participant Identifier (new) 7](#_Toc185932192)

[Section 5 Compilation and submission 8](#_Toc185932193)

[Section 6 Validation 9](#_Toc185932194)

[S443 NDIS participant identifier invalid (new) 9](#_Toc185932195)

[Remove Surgeon Identifier 10](#_Toc185932196)

[Section 3a Data definitions – data elements 10](#_Toc185932197)

[Surgeon Identifier (remove) 10](#_Toc185932198)

[Section 5: Compilation and submission 10](#_Toc185932199)

[Section 6: Validations 13](#_Toc185932200)

[S437 Surgeon Identifier invalid (remove) 13](#_Toc185932201)

[S445 Field retired (new) 13](#_Toc185932202)

[Addition of ASA scores 14](#_Toc185932203)

[Section 3a Data definitions – data elements 14](#_Toc185932204)

[ASA score (new) 14](#_Toc185932205)

[Section 5: Compilation and submission 14](#_Toc185932206)

[Section 6: Validation 15](#_Toc185932207)

[S444 ASA score invalid (new) 15](#_Toc185932208)

# Executive Summary

The revisions for the Elective Surgery Information System (ESIS) for 2025-26 are summarised below.

New data elements

* Add NDIS Participant Identifier
* Add ASA score

Amendments to existing data elements

* Remove Surgeon Identifier

# 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.

Some proposed changes submitted for 2024-25 were deferred for consideration during the 2025-26 annual change process. Comments provided by the health sector in response to Proposals for revisions to ESIS 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 2025-26.

**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

* New data elements are marked as (new).
* 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 proposal document appear in *[square brackets and italics].*
* New validations are marked ### if number has not yet been allocated
* 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

The department considered proposals for changes to the ESIS submitted during the 2024-25 and 2025-26 annual changes process

Proposals submitted to the ESIS for 2024-25 and deferred:

**Proposal 5 - Add NDIS Participant Identifier**

Proposal proceeds.

**Proposal 8 – Remove Surgeon Identifier**

Proposal proceeds.

Proposals submitted to the ESIS for 2025-26:

**Proposal 11 - Addition of ASA scores to ESIS**

Proposal proceeds with amendments.

# Specifications for changes from 1 July 2025

# Add NDIS Participant Identifier

## Section 3a Data definitions – data elements

## NDIS Participant Identifier (new)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant number of person who is a registered NDIS participant |
| **Label** | NDIS\_Identifier |
| **Reported in** | Patient extract |
| **Reported for** | Registered NDIS participant |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for any episode |
| **Code set** | Allocated by the National Disability Insurance Agency |
| **Reporting guide** | The NDIS participant number is the unique reference number allocated to the individual by the NDIS as a form of identification once the agency has approved the provision of NDIS services for that person.  For new NDIS participants, report the NDIS participant number as soon as this becomes available.  Valid:   * All numeric or blank * For NDIS participants who are unable to provide their number report 999999999   For non-NDIS participants the field should be blank |
| **Validations** | S443 NDIS Participant identifier invalid |

Administration

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| **Purpose** | To identify NDIS participants within health data collections, and the primary identifier for data linkage between health data collections and the NDIA |
| **Principal data users** | Department of Health |
| **Collection start** | July 2025 |
| **Definition source** | Department of Health |
| **Code set source** | National Disability Insurance Agency |

## 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 | M | Gender | Gender | N/A | code from code set |
| 11 | 4 | NDIS Participant Identifier | NDIS | 9 | NNNNNNNNN or blank |

Note: M Mandatory

1 Report when made available by the patient

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

4 Report if patient is a NDIS participant.

### 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 |
| NDIS Participant Identifier | NDIS | 9 | NNNNNNNNN or blank |

## Section 6 Validation

## S443 NDIS participant identifier invalid (new)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | The NDIS participant identifier reported is not numeric and/or 9 characters in length. |
| Remedy | Correct NDIS participant identifier and re-submit  Refer to: Section 3a NDIS Participant Identifier |

# Remove Surgeon Identifier

## Section 3a Data definitions – data elements

## Surgeon Identifier (remove)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **~~Definition~~** | ~~The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) number of the surgeon referring the patient on to an elective surgery waiting list~~ |
| **~~Label~~** | ~~Surgeon\_ID~~ |
| **~~Field size~~** | ~~13~~ |
| **~~Reported in~~** | ~~Episode extract~~ |
| **~~Reported for~~** | ~~All waiting list episodes~~  ~~Optional in 2024-25~~ |
| **~~Reported when~~** | ~~The waiting list is first registered~~ |
| **~~Reporting guide~~** | ~~Report Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) number of the surgeon referring the patient on to an elective surgery waiting list~~ |
| **~~Validations~~** | ~~S437 Surgeon Identifier invalid~~ |

Administration

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| --- | --- |
| **~~Purpose~~** | ~~This data item will be used to analyse waiting list metrics such as time to surgery, clearance rates, categorisation for clinical urgency, not ready for surgery rates~~ |
| **~~Principal data users~~** | ~~Department of Health~~ |
| **~~Collection start~~** | ~~July 2019~~ |
| **~~Definition source~~** | ~~Department of Health~~ |
| **~~Code set source~~** | ~~Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)~~ |

## Section 5: Compilation and submission

### Episode extract structure (amend)

| Order | Note | Data element | Label | Field size | Layout/code set |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | M | Episode Identifier | Episode\_Identifier | 9 | XXXXXXXXX |
| 2 | M | Patient Identifier | Patient\_Identifier | 10 | XXXXXXXXXX |
| 3 | 2 | Date of Admission | Date\_Of\_Admission | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 4 | 3 | Destination | Destination | N/A | Code from code set |
| 5 | 4 | Insurance Declaration | Insurance\_Declaration | N/A | Code from code set |
| 6 | M | Planned Length of Stay | Planned\_Length\_Of\_Stay | N/A | Code from code set |
| 7 | M,7 | Intended Procedure | Intended\_Procedure | N/A | Code from code set IPXXX |
| 8 | 5 | Intended Procedure Description | IP\_Description | Up to 100 | Free text excluding tabs, line feeds and carriage returns |
| 9 | M | Reason for Removal | Reason\_For\_Removal | N/A | Code from code set |
| 10 | M | Administrative Registration Date | Administrative\_Registration\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 11 | M | Clinical Registration Date | Clinical\_Registration\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 12 | M | Removal Date | Removal\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 13 | M | Source of Referral | Source\_of\_Referral | N/A | Code from code set |
| 14 | M | Surgical Specialty | Surgical\_Specialty | N/A | Code from code set |
| 15 | M | Treatment Campus | Treatment\_Campus | N/A | Code from code set |
| 16 | 6 | Previous Identifier of Transferred Episode | Previous\_Identifier\_of\_Transferred\_Episode | 13 | XXXXXXXXXXXXX |
| 17 | 6 | Previous Total Waiting Time of transferred episode | Previous\_TWT | 4 | NNNN |
| 18 | 8 | ~~Surgeon Identifier~~ | Surgeon\_ID | ~~13~~ | ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  Collection ceased 1/7/25. Field must be blank. |
| 19 | M | Referral Accepted Date | Referral\_Accepted\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| 20 | M | ASA Score | ASA\_Score | 1 | Code from code set |

Note:

M Mandatory

2 Mandatory for Reason for Removal codes W, M, S, Y, B, I, U, P and X

3 Mandatory for Reason for Removal codes N, P, S, and X

4 Mandatory for Reason for Removal codes W, M, S, Y, P and X

5 Mandatory for non-specific IP code

6 Mandatory for Source of Referral code 2

7 PPP codes (XXX) were only valid until 30 June 2021, for episodes registered before 1 July 2019

8 ~~Optional in 2024-25~~ Not reported from 1 July 2025. Leave blank.

### Episode ODS File Structure (XXXX\_YY\_MM\_DD\_ODS\_E.txt) (amend)

| Data element | Label | Field size | Layout/code set |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Episode Identifier | Episode\_Identifier | 9 | XXXXXXXXX |
| Clinical Registration Date | Clinical\_Registration\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| Administrative Registration Date | Administrative\_Registration\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| Source of Referral | Source\_Of\_Referral | N/A | Code from code set |
| Intended Procedure | Intended\_Procedure | N/A | Code from code set  IPXXX |
| Intended Procedure Description | IP\_Description | Up to 100 | Free text excluding tabs, linefeeds, and carriage returns |
| Surgical Specialty | Surgical\_Specialty | N/A | Code from code set |
| Treatment Campus | Treatment\_Campus | N/A | Code from code set |
| Destination | Destination | N/A | Code from code set |
| Insurance Declaration | Insurance\_Declaration | N/A | Code from code set |
| Planned Length of Stay | Planned\_Length\_Of\_Stay | N/A | Code from code set |
| Date of Admission | Date\_Of\_Admission | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| Removal Date | Removal\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| Reason for Removal | Reason\_For\_Removal | N/A | Code from code set |
| Patient Identifier | Patient\_Identifier | 10 | XXXXXXXXXX |
| Previous Identifier of Transferred Episode | Previous\_Identifier\_of\_Transferred\_Episode | 13 | XXXXXXXXXXXXX |
| Previous Total Waiting Time of transferred episode | Previous\_TWT | 4 | NNNN |
| ~~Surgeon Identifier~~ | ~~Surgeon\_ID~~ | ~~13~~ | ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ |
| Referral Accepted Date | Referral\_Accepted\_Date | 8 | DDMMYYYY |
| ASA Score | ASA\_Score | 1 | Code from code set |

## Section 6: Validations

## S437 Surgeon Identifier invalid (remove)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ~~Effect~~ | ~~Correction~~ |
| ~~Problem~~ | ~~The Surgeon Identifier reported is not 13 characters in length~~ |
| ~~Remedy~~ | ~~Correct the Surgeon Identifier and re-submit~~ |

## S445 Field retired (new)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Warning |
| Problem | A code has been reported in the Surgeon Identifier field which was retired from 1/7/25. |
| Remedy | Refer this error to your vendor. |

# Addition of ASA scores

## Section 3a Data definitions – data elements

## ASA score (new)

Specification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Definition** | The ASA score is a physical status classification system for assessing a patient before surgery. |
| **Label** | ASA\_Score |
| **Reported in** | Episode extract |
| **Reported for** | All waiting list episodes registered from 1 July 2025. |
| **Reported when** | The patient is first registered on the waiting list for this episode. |
| **Code set** | 1 A normal healthy patient  2 A patient with mild systemic disease  3 Patient with a severe systemic disease that limits activity  4 Patient with a severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life  5 A moribund patient who is not expected to survive longer than 24 hours without surgical intervention  9 No documentation of ASA score |
| **Reporting guide** | The ASA score should t be recorded on the day the patient is placed on the waiting list. It will be recorded either by the referring clinician/surgeon, the perioperative nurse, or the anaesthetist if anaesthetic review occurs. |
| **Validations** | S444 ASA score invalid |
| **Related items** | Section 3 Administrative Registration Date |

Administration

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| --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | To support system planning. |
| **Principal data users** | Department of Health |
| **Collection start** | July 2025 |
| **Definition source** | Department of Health |
| **Code set source** | ASA DH modified |

## Section 5: Compilation and submission

Refer to [Episode Extract Structure (amend)](#_Episode_Extract_structure) above.

## Section 6: Validation

## S444 ASA score invalid (new)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Effect | Correction |
| Problem | The ASA code has either not been reported (blank) or the code reported is invalid. |
| Remedy | Correct the ASA code and re-submit.  Refer to: Section 3a ASA score. |