

DSAS Data Standards Assurance Service

Dear subscriber

Please see below for details of our latest publication activity.

Information Standards

[DAPB4011 eMED3 \(Fit Notes\) in Secondary Care](#)

The Statement of Fitness for Work was introduced in April 2010 across England, Wales and Scotland. In 2012 the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) enabled General Practices to produce computer-generated fit notes (eMED3). This new standard builds on this work and legislation changes that came into force in July 2022 allowing fit notes to be issued electronically by a range of healthcare professionals in secondary care and changes to the Social Security (Medical Evidence) and Statutory Sick Pay (Medical Evidence) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 which means that there will no longer be a requirement to sign the eMED3 form in ink. The fit notes will be digitally certified replacing the current wet signature.

Applies to:

- All NHS funded secondary care providers

Implementation and conformance dates:

- Implementation of this standard should start from the time of publication in November 2022
- From 30 November 2023 providers of NHS-funded secondary care activity, as defined in this Information Standard, must be fully conformant

The Information Standards Notice (ISN) provides an overview of the standard:

- [Information Standards Notice](#)

If you have any queries about this standard, you can contact the developers at fitnote.team@dwp.gov.uk
(Please include eMED3 in the subject)

Further information: <http://digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb4011>

Secondary Care System Supplier Support

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and NHS Digital Product Implementation and Relationship Management team would like to speak with all Secondary Care System Suppliers who are developing against the ISN to make you aware of the available support offerings. Please contact nhsdigital.emed3@nhs.net for additional support material.

DAPB0084 OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures

OPCS-4 is a statistical classification for clinical coding of hospital interventions and procedures undertaken by the NHS. The classification is mandatory for use by healthcare providers to support various forms of data collections for secondary uses.

This release is part of the regular review and uplift of OPCS-4 every 3 years to reflect current NHS clinical practice to support aggregate data for statistical purposes and reimbursement. Minor changes, which include new codes, retirements and changes to code descriptions and notes, are detailed in the Summary of Core Changes, published on the [Information Standards](#) page. There are no changes to the underlying architecture or structure of OPCS-4.

Applies to:

- All providers of NHS funded hospital services

Implementation and conformance dates:

- All systems must be able to use OPCS 4.10 with immediate effect from 1 April 2023

The Information Standards Notice (ISN) provides an overview of the standard:

- [Information Standards Notice](#)

If you have any queries about this standard, you can contact the developers at information.standards@nhs.net (Please include OPCS in the subject)

Further information: <http://digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb0084>

Assurance activity

You can now view a list of the standards and collections that are undergoing assurance by the Data Standards Assurance Service (DSAS) and due to be presented to upcoming DAPB meetings on our [standards assurance activity web page](#).

If you have any queries about items undergoing assurance and would like to speak to one of our assurance advisors, please contact us at standards.assurance@nhs.net quoting the DAPB number of the items.

Kind regards,
Data Standards Assurance Service
NHS Digital

Get in touch

If you have any feedback or have a topic you'd like to know more about then email us at: standards.assurance@nhs.net

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