

SPECIALISED SERVICES NATIONAL DEFINITIONS SET (THIRD EDITION)

Main changes to third edition definitions

PHASE 1

These 8 definitions were approved by NSCG on 16 Dec 2008 and are due to be put on the NSCG website in May 2009:

Definition No. 6 Specialised Spinal Services (all ages)

- provides tighter text overall
- includes palliative / curative spinal oncology surgery
- excludes back pain services (except for specific surgical interventions i.e. anterior spinal surgery and implanting in-dwelling epidural catheters or dorsal column stimulators)
- provides fuller list of OPCS intervention codes
- includes ICD codes

Definition No. 11 Specialised Renal Services (adult)

- provides tighter text overall
- excludes general nephrology out-patient clinics
- includes ICD and OPCS intervention codes

Definition No.13 Specialised Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery Services (adult)

- changes coverage to adults only and moved children's transplantation services to the Children's definition
- provides tighter text overall
- includes section on: inherited heart disorders, cardiovascular magnetic resonance services
- excludes cardiac pacemaker introduced through vein and primary percutaneous coronary intervention for ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI)
- provides fuller list of ICD and OPCS intervention codes

Definition No.16 Specialised Immunology Services (all ages)

- provides tighter text overall

Definition No. 19 Specialised Services for Liver, Biliary and Pancreas Medicine and Surgery (adult)

- provides tighter text overall
- excludes viral hepatitis services except for complicated cases (e.g. HIV co-infected, haemophilia, drug resistant) and

Definition No. 29 Specialised Respiratory Services (adult)

- provides tighter text overall, particularly sections on: home ventilation, sleep related problems
- includes sections on: new bronchoscopy techniques, severe and difficult-to-control asthma
- excludes sections on: tertiary / quaternary opinion, respiratory sequelae of paediatric respiratory disease

- includes OPCS intervention codes
- provides fuller list of ICD codes

Definition No. 33 Specialised Colorectal Services (adult)

- provides tighter text overall
- provides fuller list of ICD and OPCS codes

Definition No. 38 Specialised Haemoglobinopathy Services (all ages)

- this is a new definition
-

SPECIALISED SERVICES NATIONAL DEFINITIONS SET (THIRD EDITION)

Main changes to third edition definitions

PHASE 2a

These 6 definitions were approved by NSCG in March 2009 and are due to be put on the NSCG website in July 2009:

Definition No. 8 Specialised Neurosciences Services (adult)

- provides tighter text overall
- includes neuropsychiatry services in both this definition and the Mental Health definition
- excludes general neurology out-patient services; includes specialist neurology out-patient clinics
- includes ICD codes
- provides fuller list of OPCS intervention codes

Definition No. 10 Cystic Fibrosis Services (all ages)

- provides tighter text overall
- includes OPCS intervention codes

Definition No. 15 Cleft, Lip and Palate Services (all ages)

- provides tighter text
- provides fuller list of ICD and OPCS intervention codes

Definition No. 22 Specialised Mental Health Services (all ages)

- changes coverage from adults only to all ages
- provides tighter text overall, particularly sections on: complex and/or refractory disorder services, Asperger's syndrome & autism spectrum disorder services
- includes section on severe personality disorder services
- includes CAMHS Tier 4 services in both this definition and the Children's definition
- includes neuropsychiatry services in both this definition and the Neurosciences definition
- excludes sections on: addiction services and psychological therapy services
- provides fuller list of ICD codes

Definition No. 27 Specialised Endocrinology Services (adult)

- provides tighter text overall, particularly sections on: thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal surgery
- excludes section on: complications of diabetes mellitus, androgen replacement
- provides shorter list of ICD and OPCS intervention codes

Definition No. 35 Specialised Morbid Obesity Services (all ages)

- provides tighter text overall
- provides fuller list of ICD and OPCS intervention codes

Removal of Definitions No:s 14, 25, and 28 from the SSNDS Third Edition

Definition No. 14, HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care Services (adults)

1. The 2001/02 edition of Definition No.14, HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care Services (adult), covered all HIV/AIDS out-patient activity but by 2008 at least 171 hospitals were providing out-patient services to adult HIV patients. Consequently these adult out-patient services can no longer be regarded as specialised.
2. The 22 October 2008 special SSNDS meeting of the Specialised Commissioning Groups (SCGs) supported the removal of HIV/AIDS adult out-patient services from the definition.
3. The 17 March 2009 meeting of the National Specialised Commissioning Group (NSCG) agreed that HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care Services (adult) definition be removed from the third edition and any sequelae of the HIV condition for adults should be included in other definitions as appropriate (e.g. drug resistant tuberculosis is covered in Definition No.29 Specialised Respiratory Services).
4. Note that HIV treatment and care services for children, both in-patient and out-patient services, are considered specialised services and are included in Definition No.18, Specialised Services for Infectious Diseases.

Definition No. 25, Specialised Pathology Services (all ages)

5. Definition No.25, Specialised Pathology Services, was one of the existing definitions in the 2001/02 edition. Even at the time of the 2001/02 edition concern was expressed that the definition was problematic, partly because of the difficulty in distinguishing between specialised and non specialised pathology services, and also because the definition included many pathology services that were not actually specialised.
6. A series of discussions and meetings were held with the Department of Health policy leads for pathology and genetic services and the National Director for Pathology Services and it was agreed that it was more appropriate to incorporate specialised pathology services in other individual definitions, as appropriate, rather than having a separate definition for Specialised Pathology Services.
7. The 22 October 2008 special SSNDS meeting of the SCGs confirmed that this was a sensible approach.
8. The 17 March 2009 meeting of the NSCG agreed that the Specialised Pathology Services definition be removed from the third edition of the SSNDS.

Definition No. 28, Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Services (adult)

9. Definition No.28, Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Services (HBOT), was one of the existing definitions in the 2001/02 edition. The text reads more like a service specification. In addition, for many of the suggested indications there is little or no evidence of efficacy.

10. The 22 October 2008 special SSNDS meeting of the SCGs supported the removal of the HBOT definition from the third edition of the SSNDS and noted the forthcoming production of a commissioning policy for HBOT services.

11. The 4 [November](#) 2008 meeting of [SCGs](#) [reported that West Midlands SCG is producing a local, West Midlands HBOT commissioning policy which will be shared with other SCGs.](#)

12. The 17 March 2009 meeting of the NSCG agreed that the Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Services definition be removed from the third edition of the SSNDS.
