

An Australian Government Initiative

Data Cleansing

Quality Improvement Toolkit for General Practice

Acknowledgement of Country

Eastern Melbourne PHN acknowledges the Wurundjeri people and other peoples of the Kulin Nation on whose unceded lands our work in the community takes place. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past and present EMPHN is committed to the healing of Country, working towards equity in health outcomes, and the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

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About this toolkit - Data Cleansing

In this quality improvement toolkit, general practice teams will be provided strategies to update and maintain quality clinical records to offer a better understanding of patient cohorts and enable extraction of reliable data to manage patient populations.

Implement data cleansing activities to keep your clinical information system
 Outcomes of this activity Implement use of coded lists in clinical information system and cleaning up uncoded lists. Increase accurate recording of demographic data and lifestyle risk factors fo active patients.

How to use this toolkit

The steps in this toolkit are examples of practical ideas to assist with accurate and reliable recording of clinical data within your clinical software.

Starting point	Identify your QI team and QI activity communication processes
<u>Step 1</u>	Review data cleansing training videos and resources
<u>Step 2</u>	Archiving patients
<u>Step 3</u>	Setting up software preferences for clinicians
Step 4	Cleaning up uncoded diagnosis
Step 5	Accurate recording of demographic and lifestyle risk factors
Finishing point	Sustainability check list

Recording your improvement for this activity

It is recommended to review each improvement step and select what may be appropriate for your general practice to consider undertaking and test using Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycles to make sustainable changes and record key learnings for your practice team. Use the following template to record your activities.



PDSA Example: Data Cleansing PDSA Example Template

Where to get help?

EMPHN general practice improvement & digital enablement: digitalhealth@emphn.org.au

EMPHN practice support: practicesupport@emphn.org.au

HealthPathways Melbourne: info@healthpathwaysmelbourne.org.au



Starting point: Identify your QI team and QI activity communication processes

change teamwork• Assign roles and responsibilities according to staff skill, interest and position.• Allocate protected time for the QI team to perform required tasks e.g. 1hr per week in calendar.• Plan frequency of meetings for QI team.• Provide access to project files and related policy and proceduresCommunication with the practice team• Identify who will need to be kept informed.• Identify the method(s) that will be used to inform and update all staff of any changes as a result of the QI activity e.g. staff/Clinical/Admin/Nurse meetings, email, noticeboard, group chat.• Ensure all staff are advised of the chosen communication(s) method.• Provide monthly updates to all staff of ongoing changes e.g. add QI to staff/Clinical/Admin/Nurse meetings.• Allow staff to contribute ideas and provide opportunities for staff feedback.	Identify your	Identify the lead and practice team members to drive quality improvement
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• Allow staff to contribute ideas and provide opportunities for staff feedback.		staff/Clinical/Admin/Nurse meetings.
		• Allow staff to contribute ideas and provide opportunities for staff feedback.
Distribute minutes/action points following any meetings held and ensure		• Distribute minutes/action points following any meetings held and ensure
staff are aware of any follow-up needed.		staff are aware of any follow-up needed.

Step 1: Review data cleansing training videos and resources

Learn the essential steps on data cleansing by watching our specialised EMPHN webinars:

- 1. EMPHN Introduction to data quality video (7.59min length): https://vimeo.com/307398482/1421c5e4b4
- 2. EMPHN Quality Improvement Activity Webinar Data Cleansing (5.04min length): <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSt9tWussWM</u>

Key resources	Details
RACGP: Improving health record quality in general practice	Resource: <u>https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/practice-</u> resources/general-practice-guides/improving-health-record- quality/introduction
RACGP: High-Quality Health Records	Education toolkit: <u>https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-</u> practice/practice-resources/practice-tools/education-toolkits/high- quality-health-records/the-purpose-of-this-resource

Did you know?

Undertaking data cleansing activities will assist your practice with meeting:

- PIP QI activity requirements <u>Practice Incentives Program Quality Improvement</u> Incentive – Guidance | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
- <u>RACGP Standards for general practices 5th edition</u>
- PIP eHealth incentive (ePIP): <u>Requirement 3</u>
- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare <u>Healthcare records</u>, <u>Action 1.16</u>



Step 2: Archiving patients

The aim of this activity is to archive inactive patients to create an accurate and up to date clinical system of active patients.



Tracking your improvement for this activity

List the number of active patients you have in your database. Record your baseline and end of activity active patient numbers here.

Data report to use Walkthrough: Active Patients <u>Refer to Appendix 3</u>
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Baseline Measurement:	End of activity Measurement:
Active patient count:	Active patient count:
Date:	Date:

Tasks to complete this activity:

Review your policy and procedure for deactivating past patients (non-attending and deceased) to ensure it is appropriate and being used routinely.

It is good practice to inactivate patients regularly (the inactivation timeframe they haven't been seen for is a clinical decision, but commonly it can be 2 or 3 years). Commonly this task is done 3-6 monthly by the Practice Manager or Practice Nurse. It should go into their calendar and their job description, so if there is staff turnover, it gets handed on to the new staff member and it is not forgotten. Remind reception staff to always check "all patients" when they are looking for patients.

You may consider archiving or inactivating patients one-by-one who do not fit within the practice's active patient definition. This may include:

- Archiving deceased patients.
- Merging duplicate patients.
- Archiving patients with a postcode not relevant to your areas/state.
- Archiving patients that have moved away or no longer attend the clinic.
- Archiving patients that have never attended the clinic e.g. those patients that have registered for an appointment but have never turned up (e.g. online bookings).

Key resources	Details
Steps to inactivate patients in clinical software	Best Practice Bulk inactivating patients <u>Refer to Appendix 1</u> Medical Director Bulk inactivating patients <u>Refer to Appendix 2</u>



Activity Check in

Did you complete this activity? If yes, document your completed activity using the PDSA template



Step 3: Setting up software preferences for clinicians

The aim of this activity is to create accurate and up to date patient records by adding only relevant items that are recorded in the patient's past history, and items are made inactive when no longer relevant.



Tracking your improvement for this activity

Note: you cannot track data on this activity

Tasks to complete this activity:

Ensure all clinical users have user options set up in the Clinical Information System to assist with maintaining data quality to only enter chronic conditions and significant events in 'Past Medical History'.

To implement clinical user options, consider the following tasks to complete this activity:

- Meet with all clinicians and discuss changing any preferences in the software (if applicable) and how to manage keeping Past History lists up to date and relevant.
- Change the default option of when adding Reason for visit and Reason for Prescription so it does not automatically add every detail to Past History (Note this needs to be performed for each user)

Key resources	Details
Configuring user options in clinical software	Best Practice - Configuring user options to help maintain data quality. <u>Refer to Appendix 4</u>
	Medical Director Configuring user options to help maintain data quality. <u>Refer to Appendix 5</u>



Activity Check in

Did you complete this activity? If yes, document your completed activity using the PDSA template

Step 4: Cleaning up uncoded diagnosis – Activity for clinical staff

The aim of this activity is to improve the coding of diagnoses (reduce/eliminate free text diagnoses) in your clinical information system.



Tracking your improvement for this activity

List the number of uncoded diagnosis in your database. Record your baseline and end of activity number of uncoded diagnosis in your database here.

Data report to use	Walkthrough: Recording of uncoded diagnosis Re	<u>efer to Appendix 8</u>
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>	

Baseline Measurement:	End of activity Measurement:
Uncoded diagnosis count:	Uncoded diagnosis count:
Date:	Date:



Tasks to complete this activity:

To clean up uncoded diagnosis and replace with coded diagnosis, consider the following tasks to complete this activity:

- Discuss the implementation at a practice meeting to ensure you tackle this as a practice.
- Encourage your Clinicians to use the coded lists whenever possible and to use the notes feature to add additional notes as needed.
- Develop a no free text diagnosis policy.

Key resources	Details
Clean up un-coded	Best Practice Clean up un-coded Past History items <u>Refer to Appendix 6</u>
Past History items	Medical Director Clean up un-coded Past History Refer to Appendix 7



Activity Check in

Did you complete this activity? If yes, document your completed activity using the PDSA template

Step 5: Accurate Recording of Demographic Data and Lifestyle Risk Factors

The aim of this activity is to increase accurate recording of demographic data and lifestyle risk factors for active patients.



Tracking your improvement for this activity

List the number of recorded demographic and risk factor data in your database. Record your baseline and end of activity numbers in your database here.

Data rapart to usa	Walkthrough: Recording of demographic and risk factor data
Data report to use	<u>Refer to Appendix 9</u>

Baseline Measurement:	Baseline Percentage %	End of Activity Percentage %
% recorded RACGP Active patients Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status		
% recorded RACGP Active patients Allergy status		
% recorded RACGP Active patients BMI status		
% recorded RACGP Active patients Ethnicity status		
% recorded RACGP Active patients Alcohol status		
% recorded RACGP Active patients Family History status		
	Date:	Date:

Tasks to complete this activity:

Incorporate use of Walrus notification tool to identify active patients that require an update to recording of demographic data and lifestyle risk factors.



Installation or Walrus Notification tool to assist with opportunistic data cleansing activities.

• Install Walrus Notification tool on each computer used by the clinical team

Video: How to set up and use Walrus

Walkthrough: Installing Walrus on your practice

• Provide training for clinical teams on how to use Walrus to prompt to update missing information using the 'clipboard' icon

Video: Walrus introduction

Walrus demonstration video - Length 3.02minutes.

• Clinical team to use Walrus notification tool to opportunistically update missing demographic data at point of care.



Activity Check in

Did you complete this activity? If yes, document your completed activity using the PDSA template

Finishing point: Sustainability check list - maintaining the change

Document	Have you recorded your completed activities?Resource: PDSA Template		
Action	 Adopt: excellent work, embed that change. Adapt: determine if a change is needed to the plan and start a new PDSA. Abandon: Rethink the next PDSA Lessons can be learned from PDSAs that are abandoned. Keep a record of learnings. 		
Sustaining project outcomes	 Consider which practice documentation may need to be updated to include the change: Updates to Policy and Procedure manual. Specific task procedures. Local signs or instructions. Staff work practices. Position descriptions. Staff induction. Staff skills development or education. 		
Communicate	QI project outcome feedback to staff.Present project strengths and challenges.		
Celebrate	 Celebrate your outcomes and achievements by sharing a with a morning tea with your team. 		
Reflect and review	 Discuss project strengths and challenges. Annually review the PDSA outcomes to ensure activities are still being adhered to and completed Annually review your topic specific activity results. Identify gaps, areas for improvement and set new activity targets if applicable. Where to next on your continuous QI journey? Consider potential topics for a new CQI activity, and how your experience with this activity can help you to be more efficient and effective 		



Appendix 1: Best Practice - Bulk Inactivating Patients

Step 1 Note before starting	Back up your current data before running this utility
Step 2 From the main screen (not within a patient record), select Utilities>Sear ch	Sep Premier File Clinical Management Utilities View Setup Help Image: Second Control of the secon
Step 3 Select Visits	Conditions Vertex of the search File Help Setup search: Demographics Drugs Conditions Vertex SQL Query: SELECT * FROM BPS Problems WHERE Sexue Text = "Active" ORDER BY summer. firstname Include inactive patients
Step 4 Select Seen by (all users). Select dates from and To. Tick "NOT". Click Add >Ok	✓ Search for visits × Seen by: ▲II users Include inactive providers From: ☑ 14/11/2021 To: ☑ 14/11/2023 O AND O R NOT Add OK Cancel







Appendix 2: Medical Director - Bulk Inactivating Patients

Back up your current data before running this utility Step 1 Note before starting Step 2 🗃 Medical Director 3.7 Release From the Open File Patient User Tools Clinical Investigations Search Resources Help main screen Patient (not within a Asthma... patient Diabetes Register record), select Immunisation... Search> Pap Smear... **Patients** Pregnancy List... Prescription ۲ Recall... Influenza 'At Risk' Pneumovax 'At Risk' Step 3 Patient Search ATSI Aboriginal Pregnani O<u>Y</u>es Sөк ⊙∆I In the Patient Age Age greater than or equal to: ○<u>N</u>• ⊙AJ Search OEemale OMale Tones Strait Islander Age less than or equal to: window, tick Aboriginal and Tories Strait Islander Smoker >= /day Never Smoked Ex-Smoker Not seen since, enter Occupation v Other demographic criteria the relevant Drug/Condition Currently taking drug time period O Currently taking drug from class then click on O Previous script for drug Search O Condition O Symptom NOT Add to search orteria O Sign Seen <u>B</u>y From 21/4/2008 To 21/4/2008 ✓ Nat seen since 21/4/2006 ▼ Custom Field 1 Custom Field 3 Custom Field 2 Search All patients who have not been seen since 21/4/2006 Clear <u>C</u>lose



Step 4

The patient list will appear. Select inactivate patients to inactivate all patients

U petents who l	have not been seen sit	nce 31 AU\$006	Polonnias	er of parlienter 52				
		<u>~</u>		Subspicearch only	ria			
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Andrews	Saly	21 DESTIGE, RILLIAND 3123	12/05/1990 F	9302-0450				
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Pridems	Julia	SJEFFERSON ST. PARKVILLE 3256	03/03/1956 [F	234 6/89	234 6789	8501225221		345
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Connelly	Coine	54 LAMBERWELL BLVD, CFUCGIE 6025	060/07/1965 F					
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ngham	liere	ZISLANE BAY FICAE, ILUKA 6020	02/05/1 307 F					
Jane:	Jane	28 JABIHU LUURT, JANE BRUUK, 6066	28/11/1968 F					
Jandanski	Jeliz Anno	555 JUNIPER WAY, JERHAMUNGUP 6	25/04/1960 F					
Janke	Jelena	312 STERLING ST, SHARK BAY 6037	31/01/1979 F					
Jardino	JeanPaul	44 JACARANDA DRIVE, JANDABUP 6065	27/11/18/6 M					
Jelleison	Julia	10 JETMS DAY FIDAD, JOLIMONT 6014	23/03/1304 F					
Jenninge	Janes	2 JOYOUS WAY, JERRAMUNGUP \$337	30/06/1966 M					
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	0							

Step 5

Note final pop

Before completing bulk inactiviation, review final pop up screen to ensure you are happy to proceed with action.

- up screen



Appendix 3: Walkthrough - Active Patients

Step 1 Open POLAR and Select Clinic Summary Report from Reports

your new number of active patients.



Clinic Summary Clinic Summary report including CLINICAL INDICATORS

	Llouble allek to yeaw list		
Step 2 Using the filters	··· 🕼 🗙 🗸		
down the left	Q Search in listbox		
status then	Active 🗸		
Active and	Archived		
selection	Casual		
The Patient Count	Deceased		
is your baseline data.	Inactive		
Repeat 48 hours	Visiting		
after you have made patients inactive via the			
instructions this is your new number of active patients	Patient Satus		



Appendix 4: Best Practice - Configuring user options to help maintain data quality

Bp^{*}Premier

Summary Sheet

Individual users can change their default setting 'preferences' in Bp Premier to assist with data collection & quality.

Change default option to mandate an entry of 'Reason for Visit' that does not automatically add to 'Past History':

- 1. From the main screen select the Setup menu
- 2. Select Preferences from the drop-down list.
- 3. Select Clinical from the icons on the left
- 4. Tick 'Enforce entry of Reason for Visit when closing patient record'
- 5. Under 'Reason for Visit window:' untick 'Always Add to Past History' & Save.

(NB. If reason for visit is a new diagnosis it will need to be added to the Past History list).

Setup	Help	
Printers		
P	ractice details	
C	onfiguration	Shift+F3
U	sers	Shift+F4
P	references	Shift+F5



Entering Reason for Prescription

- 1. From within Setup>Preferences select the Prescribing icon.
- 2. Tick 'Include Reason for Prescription page in Rx Wizard'.
- 3. Under 'Reason for prescription' untick 'Always Add to PMH'





Summary sheets are designed to supplement Train IT Medical training. Contact us today enquiries@trainitmedical.com.au www.trainitmedical.com.au

Train IT Medical

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Appendix 5: Medical Director - Configuring user options to help maintain data quality



Summary Sheet

Individual users can change their default settings 'Options' in MedicalDirector Clinical to assist with data collection & quality.

Changing default option so that 'Reason for Contact' does not automatically add to 'Past Medical History':

- 1. From the main screen (not from within a patient record), select the **Tools** menu
- Select Options from the drop-down list.
- 3. Select the Progress Notes tab.
- 4. Untick 'Save in Past Medical History' & Save. (NB. If reason for contact is a new diagnosis it will need to be added to the Past History list).

Mandating 'Reason for Contact' & 'Reason for Medication':



Mandating 'reason for contact' & 'reason for medication' means a prompt will appear when the patient record is closed if this information has not yet been entered.

- Select Tools > Options > Clinical tab
- 1. Select Tools > Options
- Prescribing tab > Tick 'Reason for medication''
- Tick 'Mandate entering a reason(s).....'
- 3. Prescribing tab > untick 'Save in PMH'





Appendix 6: Best Practice – Clean up un-coded Past History items





Appendix 7: Medical Director – Clean up un-coded Past History items





Appendix 8: Walkthrough – Recording Uncoded Diagnosis

Step 1 Open POLAR and Select Clinic Summary Report from Reports	Clinic Summary Clinic Summary report including CLINICAL INDICATORS	
Step 2 Using the filters down the left select patient status then Active and confirm the selection		
Step 3 Select Clinical then Diagnosis	Clinical MBS Pra Clinical Indicators Diagnosis Prescriptions Pathology Radiology	
Step 4 Select Unmapped Diagnosis	 Diagnosis Grouping Chronic Disease Categories Basic Diagnoses Diagnosis Explanation Image Duplicate Detection Higher Level Diagnosis Mapping Chronic Disease Category Mapping Advanced Diagnoses Unmapped Diagnoses N 	
Step 5 Total of Unmapped diagnosis provides your baseline	Unmapped Diagnoses Diagnosis Q Totals	No. of Diagnoses



Appendix 9: Walkthrough – Recording demographic data and lifestyle risk factors

