



To: All BASHH Members

June 2010

Dear BASHH Member,

Revisions to the KC60 codes: Sexual Health and HIV Property Type (SHHAPT) codes

As you will be aware, the KC60 codes are being revised. The codes were last reviewed and revised in 2002/03 but recently concerns had been raised that these codes no longer provided an accurate reflection of current working practice within clinics. The main issues raised were:

- Some codes were no longer relevant to current working practice and new codes were needed to reflect recent developments in services offered,
- Some of the codes, especially the HIV codes, were too complex and confusing,
- The definition of GU episode conflicted with actual working practice within clinics,
- With the proposed expansion of GUMCAD beyond tier 3 services, additional codes would be needed to distinguish different levels of service offered.

The revision was developed by a sub-group of the BASHH Information Group and opened for consultation to all BASHH members between April and July 2009. During the consultation, the proposals were presented at the BASHH OGM on 12th June 2009, where clinicians were given the opportunity to vote on the major changes proposed. We believe the new codes therefore present an accurate reflection of current working practice and public health priorities in sexual health as defined by leading experts in the field.

During the BASHH consultation exercise, a further proposal to develop an extended set of standardised codes was given overwhelming support. These codes would not be reported nationally but would enable clinics to collect more detailed information and undertake audits in a more standardised way. The extended set of BASHH codes will be developed by the BASHH Information Group at a later date.

The new codes have now been given NHS Information Standards Board Approval **and come into operation from 1st January 2011; you should use the existing codes until then.** The name of the codes has been revised to the **Sexual Health and HIV Activity Property Type (SHHAPT) codes**. This change was proposed by the NHS Data Dictionary and is in response to the retirement of form KC60 and the current review of the name of the specialty of genitourinary medicine. Changes to your clinic's software to enable you to record the new

codes need to be implemented by your clinic's software provider or IT specialist over the coming months. All major software suppliers have already indicated that they will be able to change their software in time for the proposed change over date.

Please find enclosed updated guidance material explaining how to collect and record data for GUMCAD which includes detailed guidance for using the new SHHAPT codes ("GUMCAD: Genitourinary Medicine Clinic Activity Dataset: Guidance to clinic staff"). We have also enclosed a SHHAPT code 'quick look up' sheet for easy reference. Further information on the rationale for the proposed changes can be found in the revision specification ("Revisions to KC60 [SHHAPT] codes: Specification and rationale"). All of these documents are available on the HPA website at: www.hpa.org.uk/gumcad.

For further advice on collecting, recording and reporting data for GUMCAD, including SHHAPT codes, please contact:

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Please let us know if you have any issues or concerns about these new codes that you would like to discuss further.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



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