Frequently asked questions

FAQ’s designed to be used alongside North West London data [environments](https://imperialcollegehealthpartners.com/nwl-covid-data-access/north-west-london-covid-19-data-repository/).

# General

## How do I know the latest refresh dates for each data set?

The latest refresh dates are recorded in the table [dbo].[latest\_refresh\_dates].

## Is there a log of each data refresh?

A log of all refreshes are stored in the table [dbo].[data\_transfer\_log].

# Primary Care (GP\_events)

## Is the events table an appointment table?

The events table contains a record of all the coded values during a consultation. It also contains a record of administration events (e.g. letter sent or record of occupation). Some appointments are not clinical consultations, thus, may not be coded. For example, appointment for a routine case review or discussion may not result in re-coding (unless it’s mandated by the CCG or PHE/NHSE).

# COVID Data Objects

## In the sitrep table, [covid].[sitrep], it looks to me as though each row corresponds to a (HES/SUS) episode of care for covid patients – is this correct? If so, what is the inclusion/exclusion criteria for this (i.e. which episodes are included)?

There is no clear linkage, this data has been derived from the LIVE system. In theory each row would have an associated episode within SUS/HES. There isn’t really a defined set of inclusion/exclusion criteria, as we are finding each provider has interpreted how to complete the return a little differently. But the general understanding is that it is patients who have been suspected as having COVID 19.

## In the table shielded list table, [covid].[nhsd\_shieldedlist], are the wsic\_patientkey and CovidPatientKey keys unique?

Both the wsic\_PatientKey and CovidPatientKey are unique within each version of the data found in the table. Each version is denoted by the column [ReleaseDate]

## In the cmc table, [covid].[cmc], are the wsic\_patientkey and CovidPatientKey keys unique?

Both the wsic\_PatientKey and CovidPatientKey are unique within each version of the data found in the table. Each version is denoted by the column [DateOfSubmission].

## Joining the Sitrep table with the Patient Index, the latest MonthOfDeath appears to be Feb 2019 – is this because there is a delay in updating the MonthOfDeath field of the Patient Index table?

The date of death in the patient index comes from primary care as SUS does not provide a date of death. And yes the reason why it doesn’t match is because of the lag in recording the date of death in primary care systems. The MonthOfDeath is the 1st day of the month of death.

## In the sitrep table, [covid].[sitrep], how is the Diagnosed\_with\_COVID-19 field related to the Diagnostic\_Swabbing\_Result field?

In regards to patient level sitrep – diagnosed with COVID means the patient has been diagnosed with COVID (1 means Yes and 0 means No). Diagnostic swabbing results should be the swab results of the patient (1 means Yes and 0 means No). The general expectation would be that anyone who is COVID diagnosed would have a positive swab result but the data quality on patient level sitrep is not good and we cannot see this. Our suggestion is to use patient level sitrep to identify COVID patients and use the pathology dataset for the swab results as that’s more accurate.

## What is the difference between COIVID\_PatientKey & PatientKey?

* + - **COVID\_PatientKey** is generated through NHS Numbers that appear in the COVID data sets, this unique key does not link back to PatientKey as these have separate de-identification processes.
		- **PatientKey** is generated through GP data that is loaded through WSIC, this is the key that can link to all WSIC Datasets but will only have keys assigned to patients that we have data that have been loaded through the GP practices and will not include any patient that has opted out of their GP Practice.

## What is included in the COVID SitRep Data?

* + - SitRep data consists of COVID Confirmed patients, with the exclusion of London North West and Chelsea & Westminsters, where they submit all patients and suspected patients respectively. To standardise every provider, you will be required to use the flag “Diagnosed\_with\_Covid-19” equalling to 1.
		- SitRep is a daily snapshot of COVID Patients within the hospital at 8am and Patients that have been discharged in the past 24hrs.

## How to identify Deceased Patients in the SitRep Data?

Filter on the table where Discharge\_Destination\_Code=’79’. This will give you the daily deaths in each snapshot of data submitted.

## How often does the COVID Datasets get refreshed?

We aim to update COVID Datasets every week on a Friday.

***For more information, please contact:***

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