

Supplementary Diagnostics FAQ

19 October 2022, Version 1.0

Supplementary guidance on completing the “Diagnostic Waiting Times & Activity” monthly data collection

This document addresses Frequently Asked Questions on the changes to DM01 from 1st November 2022 to collect diagnostic activity data from Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs).

1. What is the timetable for CDCs to return DM01 data to NHS England?

The collection timetable for CDCs is the same as for other submitters and can be accessed from SDCS at [NHS Digital Data Collection | Home](#)

2. How is the data collected?

The data collection is run online via SDCS, using the standard DM01 template for the month. CDCs download the template in the form of an excel spreadsheet and enter their data broken down by commissioner. There is functionality in the form which semi-automates this: a drop-down list of all commissioners, with those picked generating a new data sheet per commissioner and a “total” sheet for the provider. Once completed, CDCs upload the spreadsheet to SDCS by the designated cut-off date.

3. Which organisations should complete the return?

All organisations that provide any of the 15 diagnostic tests / procedures covered by DM01 should complete the return. This includes all CDCs that provide any of the 15 diagnostic tests / procedures, in addition to the return completed by their host organisation.

4. How does a DM01 CDC return differ from that of other providers?

Organisations submitting to DM01 follow the rules presented in [DM01-guidance-v-5.32.pdf](#) and [DM01-FAQs-v-3.0.pdf](#). This states that the waiting time clock, and responsibility for data submission, rests with the “trust who maintains overall clinical responsibility for the patient”, which might extend to the activity section. However, CDC returns should all include activity for all diagnostic tests performed in the CDC, regardless of whether they have responsibility for the patient pathway or the diagnostic reporting. CDC returns should exclude waiting list information

5. What definitions apply to the DM01 CDC return?

Apart from the distinction between the organisation responsible for the patient and the CDC performing the test at FAQ 4 above, the same DM01 definition rules and guidance apply: [DM01-guidance-v-5.32.pdf](#) and [DM01-FAQs-v-3.0.pdf](#). There is no defined waiting list for CDCs, as this is retained by the responsible organisation, but the activity definitions apply.

6. Does the CDC data duplicate DM01 activity submitted by other organisations?

Yes. The CDC activity data should be included in the DM01 submissions of the organisation responsible for the patient’s diagnostic pathway - either the host organisation or another organisation that sends patients to the CDC.

7. Why does the DM01 CDC return duplicate the weekly CDC Activity Report?

The DM01 CDC return uses standard activity definitions and, in time, should take over from the weekly management information collected via the CDC Activity Return.