

## Appendix 1.2: Approaches to specification of ambulatory care sensitive conditions

Table A2 outlines the current differences between the ambulatory care sensitive condition lists and coding specifications used by the Victorian Department of Human Services (Vic DHS), New South Wales Department of Health (NSW Health) and the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW).

**Table A2: Differences in ambulatory care sensitive condition lists under ICD-10-AM: Vic DHS, NSW Health and AIHW, September 2006**

Issue/ Condition	Vic DHS 2004; 2005	NSW Health 2004	AIHW 2006
<b>Terminology</b>	Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions (ACSC)	Hospitalisation for ambulatory care sensitive conditions	Potentially preventable hospitalisations
<b>Sub-categories (vaccine-preventable; acute; chronic)</b>	No vaccine-preventable; acute; chronic sub-categories included in the latest reports [ <i>The Victorian ACSCs Study 2001/02</i> (Vic DHS 2004); <i>Your Health: A report on the health of Victorians 2005</i> (Vic DHS 2005)]	Include sub-categories (vaccine-preventable; acute; chronic), but also include analysis by individual conditions	Include sub-categories (vaccine-preventable; acute; chronic, including diabetes) – however for time series figures present vaccine-preventable; chronic (excluding diabetes) and acute – and present diabetes complications separately
<b>Procedure codes/ procedure blocks<sup>1</sup></b>	Use procedure codes for conditions requiring procedure code exclusions	Developed procedure blocks for conditions requiring procedures code exclusions – presented in <i>The health of the people of NSW: Report of the Chief Health Officer 2004</i> (Population Health Division 2004)	Use procedure codes for conditions requiring procedure code exclusions
<b>Diabetes complications</b>	E10.1-E10.8, E11.0-E11.8, E13.0-E13.8, E14.0-E14.8 In any diagnosis field [Note: excludes diabetes without complications - E10.9, E11.9 etc.]	Same as Vic DHS	New codes for diabetes included in <i>Australian Hospital Statistics 2004/05</i> (AIHW 2006): E10-E14.9 as principal diagnoses and E10-E14.9 as additional diagnoses where the principal diagnosis was: - hypersmolarity (E87.0); acidosis (E87.2); transient ischaemic attack (G45); nerve disorders and neuropathies (G50-G64); cataracts and lens disorders (H25-H28); retinal disorders (H30-H36); glaucoma (H40-H42); myocardial infarction (I21-I22); other coronary heart diseases (I20, I23-I25); heart failure (I50); stroke and sequelae (I60-I64, I69.0-I69.4); peripheral vascular disease (I70-I74); gingivitis and periodontal disease (K05); kidney diseases (N00-N29) (including end-stage renal disease N17-N19); renal dialysis (Z49)

<sup>1</sup> The changes in procedure codes between editions of ICD-10-AM has complicated the method of excluding procedure codes, in particular for the conditions congestive heart failure and hypertension. NSW Health developed a method of using procedure blocks to simplify the process and avoid some of the complications.

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Table A2: Differences in ambulatory care sensitive condition lists under ICD-10-AM: Vic DHS, NSW Health and AIHW, September 2006  
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Issue/ Condition	Vic DHS 2004; 2005	NSW Health 2004	AIHW 2006
<b>Rheumatic heart disease</b>	Not included	Not included	New chronic condition included in <i>Australian Hospital Statistics 2004/05</i> (AIHW 2006): I00 to I09 as principal diagnosis only (Note: includes acute rheumatic fever)
<b>Ruptured appendix</b>	Condition excluded	Condition included (K35.0 in any diagnosis field)	Condition included, same as NSW Health (but termed 'Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis')
<b>Pyelonephritis</b>	Include urinary tract infection (UTI) code N39.0 [Terminology: the condition 'pyelonephritis' denotes kidney infection codes only. Note: some avoidable hospitalisations research does include the condition UTI, accordingly labelled UTI; or Kidney/Urinary infections where jointly included]	Pyelonephritis codes only included – N39.0 excluded	Same as Vic DHS
<b>Cellulitis</b>	Include all L08 (which includes L08.1 - Erythrasma)	L08.1 excluded	Same as Vic DHS
<b>Dental conditions</b>	A69.0 excluded	A69.0 (Necrotising ulcerative stomatitis) included	Same as Vic DHS