



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



# National Radiotherapy Dataset (RTDS) Data Dictionary

**Version 2.0**

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## Documentation Control Sheet

Over time, it may be necessary to issue amendments or clarifications to parts of this document. This form must be updated whenever changes are made.

Version	Affected Areas Summary of Change	Prepared By	Reviewed By
1.0	First CPRD-NCRAS-RTDS data release for Set 16.	Rachael Williams	Eleanor Yelland
2.0	Updated for Set 17	Helen Booth	Eleanor Yelland

Version 1.0

- First version

Version 2.0

- Updated for Set 17



## National Radiotherapy Dataset Data Dictionary

### Radiotherapy episodes

A radiotherapy episode is a continuous period of care for radiotherapy (from start to finish) including all preparation, planning and delivery of treatment as covered in the treatment intention. Treatment given concurrently or consecutively to multiple anatomical sites associated with the same primary tumour will form part of the same radiotherapy episode. If the treatment plan changes during treatment (e.g. because a new symptom arises which also requires radiotherapy) then all the treatment delivered concurrently or consecutively will form part of the same episode. Treatment given to separate unrelated primary tumour sites will form separate episodes.

### Radiotherapy prescriptions

A radiotherapy prescription specifies a radiotherapy field arrangement, dose and fractionation for treatment to an 'ICRU-like' reference point. The details of each prescription of radiotherapy being given at an attendance are provided in the prescription table.

### Radiotherapy exposure

A radiotherapy exposure is the delivery of one treatment field as part of a fraction of radiotherapy. The details of each radiotherapy exposure being delivered at an attendance are provided in the exposure table.



## 1. Episode

Variable	Variable name	Description	Field type	Valid Content
CPRD patient identifier	e_patid	Unique patient identifier in CPRD	ID	Number
CR patient identifier	e_cr_patid	Unique patient identifier based on NCRAS data	ID	Number
Attendance identifier	attendid	Unique attendance identifier (used to link to subsequent tables)	ID	Maximum length 12
Episode identifier	radiotherapyepisodeid	Unique radiotherapy episode identifier	ID	Maximum length 50
Appointment date	apptdate	Date when the patient is to be seen or be in contact with one or more care professionals	DATE	ddmmyyyy
Decision to treat date	decisiontotreatdate	Date on which it was decided that the patient required radiotherapy. This is the date that the consultation between the patient and the clinical took place and radiotherapy was agreed.	DATE	ddmmyyyy
Earliest clinically appropriate date	earliestclinappropriatedate	First date that the patient would have been available to start radiotherapy. The same as the DECISION TO TREATE DATE unless there was an elective delay, i.e. a clinical reason, such as the patient was not fit.	DATE	ddmmyyyy



Priority	radiotherapypriority	Priority for this course of therapy as classified by the requesting clinician	TEXT	E = Emergency (treatment required within 24 hours), U = Urgent (including the Royal College of Radiologists Category I), R = Routine (including the Royal College of Radiologists Category II), D = Elective delay
Start date	treatmentstartdate	Start of the radiotherapy treatment episode	DATE	ddmmyyyy
Diagnosis	radiotherapydiagnosisid	Primary tumour diagnosis code (ICD-10)	TEXT	TEXT
Intent	radiotherapyintent	Intent of the delivered beam radiation	TEXT	01 = Palliative, 02 = Anti-cancer, 03 = Other, 99 = Unknown (not recorded)



## 2. Prescription

Variable	Variable name	Description	Field type	Valid Content
CR patient identifier	e_cr_patid	Unique patient identifier based on NCRAS data	ID	Number
Attendance identifier	attendid	Unique attendance identifier	ID	Maximum length 12
Prescription identifier	prescriptionid	Unique radiotherapy prescription identifier	ID	Maximum length 50
Treatment region	rttreatmentregion	Specific area to be treated with radiotherapy	TEXT	P = Primary, R = Regional Nodes, PR = Primary and Regional Nodes, A = Non-anatomically specific primary site, O = Prophylactic (to non-primary site), M = Metastasis
Treatment site	rttreatmentanatomicalsite	Part of the body to which the radiotherapy actual dose is administered (OPCS-4)	TEXT	Maximum length 4
Teletherapy fields	numberofteletherapyfields	Prescribed number of fields of a teletherapy treatment course	NUMBER	Maximum length 2
Prescribed dose	rtprescribeddose	Total prescribed absorbed radiation dose in Grays	NUMBER	Maximum length 3.2
Prescribed fractions	prescribedfractions	Prescribed number of fractions or hyperfractionation of a teletherapy treatment course	NUMBER	Maximum length 3
Actual dose	rtactualdose	Total actual absorbed radiation dose in Grays. This variable may be omitted from all but the ultimate fraction for this prescription.	NUMBER	Maximum length 3.2



Actual fractions	actualfractions	Total number of fractions of hyperfractionation of a teletherapy treatment course administered. This variable may be omitted from all but the ultimate fraction for this prescription.	NUMBER	Maximum length 3
Modality	rttreatmentmodality	Type of treatment delivered during a radiotherapy prescription	TEXT	05 = Teletherapy, 06 = Brachytherapy



### 3. Exposure

Variable	Variable name	Description	Field Type	Valid Content
CR patient identifier	e_cr_patid	Unique patient identifier based on NCRAS data	ID	Number
Attendance identifier	attendid	Unique attendance identifier	ID	Maximum length 12
Field identifier	radiotherapyfieldid	Unique identifier for each radiotherapy exposure	ID	Maximum length 50
Machine identifier	machineid	Pseudonymised code ascribed to the radiotherapy equipment used to treat this exposure. This identifier is made up of: (a) five character NACs site code (Rxxxx), (b) two character equipment type code (LA/CO/KV/OT), (c) four digit unique sequence number (issued by RTDS)	TEXT	Maximum length 12
Radioisotope	radioisotope	Type of radioactive source used to deliver radiotherapy with brachytherapy. Records the isotope in standard scientific notation (e.g. I123 or Ir192)	TEXT	Maximum length 6
Beam type	radiotherapybeamtype	Prescribed type of beam of a teletherapy treatment course. Note T4-T7 were retired 1 April 2014.	TEXT	T1 = Photon, T2 = Electron, T3 = Other, T4 = Photon and Electron, T5 = Photon and Other, T6 = Electron and Other, T7 = Photon, Electron and Other
Beam energy	radiotherapybeamenergy	Beam energy in MeV/MV/MVp. Records kVp energies as decimals (e.g. 250kV = 0.25MV). Only for multi-modality machines	NUMBER	Maximum length 3.3
Time	timeofexposure	Time when the exposure was initiated	TIME	HH:MM:SS



#### 4. Procedures

Variable	Variable name	Description	Field Type	Valid Content
CR patient identifier	e_cr_patid	Unique patient identifier based on NCRAS data	ID	Number
Attendance identifier	attendid	Unique attendance identifier	ID	Maximum length 12
Organisation	orgcodeprovider	Pseudonymised code of the organisation acting as a Health Care Provider	TEXT	Maximum length 6
Procedure	primaryprocedureopcs	Procedure carried and recorded for CDS or HES purposes	TEXT	Maximum length 4
Procedure date	proceduredat	Date of the occurrence of the clinical intervention	DATE	ddmmyyy