



Welcome to this quarterly Data Services ePACT2 newsletter (Quarter 1, January to March 2024), covering:

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What's New in ePACT2

National Medicines Optimisation Opportunities dashboard

The new National Medicines Optimisation Opportunities dashboard has been developed with NHS England (NHSE) to bring together data to support the [national medicines optimisation opportunities 2023/24](#). It includes metrics to support nine of the opportunity areas described in the NHSE guidance and we will add more when we can.

Find out [more information about this new dashboard](#).

Alerts dashboard – co-prescribing of tramadol and warfarin

A new comparator has been added to the Alerts dashboard for co-prescribing of tramadol and warfarin, following the release of [Susan Gladstone: Prevention of future deaths report](#).

The Alerts dashboard can be found in the dashboards section of [ePACT2](#).

BNF code changes - January 2024

The annual version changes relating to the BNF structure have been implemented with January 2024 dispensing data. As ePACT2 always uses the latest BNF code, the BNF code as of January 2024 onwards will also apply to all historical data.

The latest file shows the BNF presentation code as of December 2023 data against the BNF presentation code as of January 2024 data. Also included is the presentation name that aligns with these changes.

If you are using any of the older version BNF codes stated within an analysis filter then the filter will need changing with the new BNF codes added to

capture those presentations.

[View the BNF code changes](#) for January 2024.

Changes to monthly data stored within ePACT2

After the upcoming refresh for February 2024's data in ePACT2, users will notice that the earliest data available to access will be February 2014. This reflects the data transitioning to a 120 month (10 year) rolling dataset.

Therefore, for each subsequent month's data that is added into ePACT2, the earliest month will be removed to stay within the 120 rolling cycle.

Upcoming Events

Webinar: understanding our Polypharmacy Prescribing Comparators data

[Register for this webinar](#) and join Clare Howard, Clinical Lead for Medicines Optimisation at Wessex Academic Health Science Network (AHSN), as she takes you through the reasoning and benefits of the Polypharmacy Prescribing Comparators dashboard hosted in ePACT2.

Clare will give insight into the practical benefits of the dashboard, with a live demonstration of the Polypharmacy dashboard delivered by one of our trainers.

Upcoming dates for the webinar are:

- Wednesday 24 June 2024, 12pm to 1.30pm

- Thursday 27 June 2024, 12pm to 1.30pm

ePACT2 Hints and Tips

User guides and videos

There is a suite of user guides and videos available to assist in the use of ePACT2. They cover different aspects of the system such as using the dashboards, or creating an analysis in ePACT2. These guides and videos can be accessed from the [ePACT2 User Guides](#) webpage.

Understanding the dashboards

There are a range of dashboards within ePACT2 looking at data for defined areas. More information regarding each of these dashboards can be found on the [ePACT2 Dashboards and Specifications](#) webpage.

Understanding the data

To assist users in understanding the data held in ePACT2 we have the Data Dictionary. Contained within the Data Dictionary are all the fields used within ePACT2 data tables, and a definition of each individual field to help users understand the data returned.

You can access the Data Dictionary by scrolling down the [ePACT2 Homepage](#) on

our website, until you find the 'Understanding ePACT2 data' section. Expand this section to find the link for the Data Dictionary.

ePACT2 Training and Support

Online Training

We offer a free, online training webinar service to ePACT2 users. These range from introductory webinars offering a general appraisal of the system, to bespoke webinars where yourself and one of our trainers can discuss specific help you may need obtaining the data you want from ePACT2.

To book onto a webinar, use the online booking calendar on the [ePACT2 Training](#) webpage and select a webinar for a date/time of your choice.

Support

We provide support to our customers via email. However, if you would prefer us to respond via a Microsoft Teams chat please state this at the beginning of your message when you submit your enquiry.

Contact our support team by email: DataServicesSupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Usual business hours support is offered: Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm

ePACT2 User Network

ePACT2 users can sign up to be a member of the [ePACT2 User Network](#) hosted on the FutureNHS platform.

On the network you can access a discussion forum for ePACT2 users to collaborate and share ideas, as well as other source materials available on the network.

Registering for ePACT2 Access

Anyone working for an NHS affiliated organisation can register to access ePACT2 data. The system is free to use, but only available for registered users. New users can register for ePACT2 access by following the simple online registration process on the [Registering for ePACT2](#) webpage.

Thank you for reading this quarterly Data Services ePACT2 Newsletter and look out for the next instalment, coming out at the start of July 2024.

Follow us on Twitter for the latest news and information:

[@NHSBSA_ePACT2](#).

Come and join the conversation.

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