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| **Change Notification:**  advisory\_2020\_Ethnicity\_Protocols\_v2.0  **Date of Issue:**  11 December 2019 | **http://www.peoplenet.co.nz/Images/Logos/MinistryOfHealth.jpg** |

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| **Proposed Implementation Date:**  01 July 2020 | **Subject:** Ethnicity Protocols |
| **CHANGE NOTIFICATION** | |
| Summary:  This advisory details information in regard to updates to the Ethnicity Protocols and reporting. The expectation is that DHBs will be in a position to record ethnicity at level 4 ethnicities from 1 July 2022 or earlier. | |
| **National Collections Impacted by Change:** |  |
| Context of the Change:  The ethnicity protocols have been updated to address the move in the health and disability sector to electronic collection and storage of data. The protocols define appropriate processes for confirmation or correction of ethnicity where existing data is held for a respondent and an appropriate frequency for collecting ethnicity data.  They have been updated alongside other key strategic documents. This review allows the Ministry to fully integrate the health and disability sector protocols and the statistical standard. The updated protocols support a transition from the previous minimum requirements of recording up to three ethnicities at level 2 classification to recording up to six ethnicities at level 4 classification. This reflects the requirement for information systems to capture the greater population diversity and improved granularity of information to plan, fund and monitor health services. These changes represent a significant move forward in terms of ethnicity data collection and will make a valuable contribution for health.  <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/hiso-100012017-ethnicity-data-protocols> | |
| **Details of Proposed Change:**  GP Practices have been using the Ministry [SOAP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SOAP) (Simple Object Access Protocol) based APIs to update level 4 ethnicity codes on NHI since 2017. These are available to use now. Contact [ws\_integration@health.govt.nz](mailto:ws_integration@health.govt.nz)  The Ministry is intending to release [FHIR](https://www.hl7.org/fhir/overview.html) (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) based APIs to eventually replace the SOAP APIs. DHBs are expected to transition to these to update NHI ethnicity at level 4. It is likely that the FHIR based API will be available from 1 July 2020 and adopters will be able to implement from that date.  User Interfaces should align closely with this example based on the census on-line collection method. [[http://refraction.nz/eths](http://refraction.nz/eths/#/addethnicity)](http://refraction.nz/eths) | |
| **What is Expected of the Sector:**  That planning commences to move to the new ethnicity protocols from July 2021 or earlier if preferred | |
| **Impact of Change on National Collection(s):**  Once all DHBs have transitioned to the new services there will no longer be a requirement to report ethnicity in any load file to National Collections. The National Collections will use the NHI ethnicity. Further advice will be included in the NCAMP 2021 Sector consultation document. | |
| **Comments:**  The Ministry of Health has the following activities underway to support the sector in implementing the protocols:  · The development of a poster that explains what ethnicity is, the reason why this information is being collected and its’ use.  · An online training module for front line staff.  · A resource to assist staff to quickly identify the relevant level 4 code. | |
| **Contact:** If you have any questions regarding this change notice, please email [ncamp@moh.govt.nz](mailto:ncamp@moh.govt.nz) | |