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| **Change Notification:**  advisory\_2022\_Ethnicity Protocols\_v1.1  **Date of Issue:**  6 December 2021 | **http://www.peoplenet.co.nz/Images/Logos/MinistryOfHealth.jpg** |

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| **Proposed Implementation Date:**  01 July 2022 | **Subject:** Ethnicity Protocols |
| **CHANGE NOTIFICATION** | |
| Summary:  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> | |
| **National Collections Impacted by Change:** | NHI, All Collections |
| Context of the Change:  New Zealand is recognised as a world leader in our ability to analyse health data by ethnicity. This data is routinely collected by doctors, nurses, hospitals and other health professionals. It is used to help in health research and develop new treatments for different ethnic groups.  The Ethnicity Data Protocols for the Health and Disability Sector describe procedures for the standardised collection, recording and output of ethnicity data for the New Zealand health and disability sector. The latest protocol revision is consistent with Stats NZ’s Statistical Standard, Ethnicity V1.0.0 (statistical standard) and outlines a new set of minimum standards that apply across the health and disability sector to all organisations that collect, record and use ethnicity data. Integration of the revised protocols into the health and disability sector will assist in the ongoing process of improving the quality, accuracy and consistency of ethnicity data.  The Protocols state that up to 6 ethnicities must be recorded at level 4 (the most detailed level of the classification) for each respondent. | |
| **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 services are available to use now. Contact [ws\_integration@health.govt.nz](mailto:ws_integration@health.govt.nz) for further information.  The HL7 v2 NHI services most commonly used by DHBs/hospitals will be deprecated by the Ministry once NHI [FHIR](https://www.hl7.org/fhir/overview.html) (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) services are available.  DHBs are expected to transition to NHI SOAP or FHIR services to update NHI ethnicity at level 4. As an initial step DHBs may choose to update and store level 4 ethnicities at a local system level.  Once DHBs have transitioned to the new NHI services and are updating ethnicity at level 4 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 2023 Sector consultation document.  User Interfaces should align closely with this example based on the census on-line collection method. <http://refraction.nz/eths> | |
| **What is Expected of the Sector:**  DHBs will be in a position to record ethnicity at level 4 ethnicities from 1 July 2023 or earlier. | |
| **Impact of Change on National Collection(s):**  All national collections will be analysed to determine the impact of the changes. | |
| **Comments:**  This is an advisory only and further information will be provided in NCAMP 2023. | |
| **Contact:** If you have any questions regarding this change notice, please email [ncamp@health.govt.nz](mailto:ncamp@health.govt.nz) | |