

RELEASE DATE	24 July 2012	ID		CONTACT	Email: <a href="mailto:nehtasupport@nehta.gov.au">nehtasupport@nehta.gov.au</a> or Call 1300 901 001
CATEGORY	NEHTA Products				
AFFECTS	All Sites				
TOPIC	<b>Clarification of Medical History</b>				
DETAIL	<p>An implementer has identified conflicting advice regarding the structure and usage of the Medical History data component. NEHTA acknowledges that the documents appear to be contradictory.</p> <p><b>The two conflicting sources</b></p> <p>The conflicting information is underlined and highlighted in yellow.</p> <p><b>1. NEHTA SHS Release notes (page 5)</b></p> <p><i>Structuring Medical History Clinical Information Model</i></p> <p><i>The Medical History information structure contains two distinct categories:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Problem/Diagnosis and Procedure to meet information capturing and persistence requirements of acute care/hospital sector; or</i></li> <li>• <i>Uncategorised Other Medical History Item to meet information capturing and viewing requirements of primary care/general practice sector.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The design intent is for software vendors to design for the first two data categories:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“Problem/Diagnosis” and</i></li> <li>• <i>“Procedure”</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Use EITHER “Problem/Diagnosis” and “Procedure” OR “Other Medical History Item”, <b>but NOT both.</b></i></p> <p><b>2. NEHTA SHS Clinical document test data (page 8, section 3)</b></p> <p>If the implementation under test cannot distinguish between “problems/diagnosis” and “procedures” then it is permissible to list the stated clinical content as “Other Medical History Item”, as specified in the CDA Implementation Guide instead of using the “problem/diagnosis” or “procedures” section. The implementation under test should use either:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the “problems/diagnosis” and “procedures section”, or;</li> <li>• the “other medical history” section, or</li> <li>• <b><u>both.</u></b></li> </ul> <p><b>Explanation:</b></p> <p>The release note is actually focused on product functionality: products should use (Problem/Diagnosis and Procedure), OR Other Medical History Item (i.e. categorised or not categorised). This is product guidance - due to the potential for confusion amongst the users, products should support one model or the other.</p> <p>However NEHTA does not intend to prevent a system that previously did not categorise entries in the past from introducing categorisation in the future – such systems will produce a mixture, both categorised and uncategorised.</p> <p>The CCA guidance is written with this perspective in mind: what is allowed in the documents – both can be combined when supporting legacy data.</p> <p>So the apparent discrepancy is actually a difference in perspective between guidance for product functionality, and guidance for document contents.</p>				