Healthcare Professional Reference Codes

Comms Information

? What is the Northern Ireland Health Care Professional (NI HCP) Code?

The NI HCP Code is a unique identifier for Health Care Professionals in Northern Ireland for use in all new HSCNI Information Systems. Due to the implementation of Regional Programmes such as encompass, NIPACS+ and NIPIMS there is a need to create a standardised identification coding set to ensure interoperability across HSC Organisations and Systems.

? Why do I need to request an NI HCP Code?

If your profession is any of the roles below you need to request a new NI HCP code so that your code can be added to the NI HCP Code Masterfile for use in HSC Systems.

⚠ If you do not have a NI HCP Code you will **not** be able to send a referral or request a lab test.

Professions:			
Doctors Nurse - *includes Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Midwife, Health Visitor* Pharmacist Social Worker Dentists Clinical dental technician Dental hygienist Dental nurse Dental technician	Dental therapist Orthodontic therapist Optometrist Student Optometrist Dispensing Optician Student Dispensing Optician Clinical Physiologist Audiology *(including Hearing Therapy and Educational Audiology)* Cardiac Physiology	Clinical Exercise Physiology Gastro-intestinal Physiology Neurophysiology Respiratory Physiology Sleep Physiology Arts Therapist Biomedical Scientist Chiropodist / Podiatrist Clinical Scientist Dietitian	Hearing Aid Dispenser Occupational Therapist Operating Department Practitioner Orthoptist Paramedic Physiotherapist Practitioner Psychologist Prosthetist / Orthotist Radiographer Speech & Language Therapist

Other Information:

📄 The NI HCP Code Request Form is available here from 1st March 2023
If you have any issues requesting an NI HCP Code please contact: HSCDataStandards@hscni.net

? What happens after an NI HCP code is submitted?

The Regional Information Standards and Data Quality team will process the request and allocate a new NI HCP code to you as soon as possible and this code will be added to an NI HCP Code Masterfile and will be shared with the following programmes:

- encompass
- NIPACS +
- NIPIMS