

RSR in Focus

Understanding Client-Level XML Import Rules for Merging Records



Key Point

For RSR submission, when multiple client-level data files for the same provider are merged, actual values are never replaced with missing or "unknown" values.

Introduction

Sometimes, a Ryan White provider submits more than one client-level data file for the RSR. For example, a provider with a Part A data system and a Part C data system might do two uploads.

When HAB receives more than one file from a provider, the files are combined. Data in the two files are matched and merged by the encrypted Unique Client identifier (eUCI). This way, all the data will be captured and reported.

What are the rules for merging records?

For a given provider, if a client's data already exist in the RSR System and new information for that client is uploaded, the new data is merged with the original data. Some data items are added to the old file, and some data items overwrite the information in the original file.

Added data

Data for items that can have multiple responses are added in. New information on medical insurance, race, risk factors, and core and support services are *added* to the pre-existing data. Note that "unknown" records for these items are not deleted. For example, a client's race can be recorded in the system as both "African-American" and "unknown." Before data analysis, HAB will remove these inconsistencies during the data cleaning process.

Overwritten data

Items that can take only one response can be overwritten (see next page for these items). The previous response will be replaced by a new response if:

- The previous response is missing.
- The previous response is "unknown."
- The previous response is a more recent date. For example, if one client-level data file says the client was first diagnosed in 2008 and the second says 2000, then 2000 is stored.
- The previous response has a lower priority.

Responses on clinical questions are assigned priorities with the following order (where 1 has the highest priority):

- 1 Yes
- 2 Not medically indicated
- 3 No
- 4 Not applicable
- 5 Refused to answer
- 6 Unknown

What are the rules for deleting records?

If a provider needs to replace all of its existing client records, the provider should use the "Clear Clients" command before importing the new records.

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Items that are overwritten, not appended:

First Service Date
Enrollment Status
Birth Year
Ethnicity
Gender
Transgender
Poverty Level
Housing Status
Geographic Unit Code
HIV / AIDS Status
AIDS Diagnosis Year
Risk Screening Provided
First Ambulatory Care Date
Prescribed PCP Prophylaxis
Prescribed HAART
Screened TB
Screened TB Since HIV Diagnosis
Screened Syphilis
Screened Hepatitis B
Screened Hepatitis B Since HIV Diagnosis
Vaccinated Hepatitis B
Screened Hepatitis C
Screened Hepatitis C Since HIV Diagnosis
Screened Substance Abuse
Screened Mental Health
Received Cervical PAP Smear
Pregnant
Prenatal Care
Prescribed ARV Medication

Learn More!

Data element definitions and reporting logistics:

Rwdatasupport.wrma@csrincorporated.com

XML schema and export:

CallCenter@HRSA.gov

Additional technical assistance:

Data.TA@cicatelli.org