

# GMS IT – QMAS Update July 2006

## Guidance for PCTs and practices

This bulletin provides an update of progress in revising QMAS to support the Quality and Outcomes Framework changes detailed in 'Revisions to the GMS Contract 2006/07'. It is intended primarily for practice based users of QMAS but will be of interest for all QMAS users at the NHS Bank, SHAs and PCTs.

For all QMAS Bulletins and Guidance notes visit: [www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/](http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/)  
For QMAS training: [www.qmastraining.nhs.uk](http://www.qmastraining.nhs.uk)

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### Revisions to QMAS for 2006/07

The Department of Health require that QMAS is upgraded to support the revised indicator set. Since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 QMAS has not been showing monthly achievement reports for the financial year 2006/07 however, your GP clinical system has continued to submit reports based on last years QOF each month and in return you have received an acknowledgement message. The reports will not be available to view on QMAS.

All GP clinical system suppliers are currently upgrading their systems to submit the new and revised clinical indicators to QMAS. These extracts, once developed by the supplier are subject to a certification process by NHS Connecting for Health: GMS Certification. This process tests the QOF data extract from your clinical system that is submitted to QMAS.

Once your clinical system supplier has successfully completed the certification process, they will start to rollout their software to practices. They will inform you of their rollout plans. The progress of GMS Certification is published on the QMAS webpage. See link below.

Once this new software is installed, your clinical system will automatically submit an interim report. This is to inform QMAS that your clinical system has been upgraded with the latest software.

Your clinical system will then automatically submit your monthly reports for the revised QOF 2006/07 from April 2006 onwards. These will be available to view once QMAS has been upgraded.

Revised QMAS will have the look and feel that users are familiar with but will reflect the revisions to the QOF indicators laid out in Revisions to the GMS Contract 2006/07 and the QOF Business Rules (see links below).

For Revisions to the GMS Contract 2006-07: <http://www.nhsemployers.org/primary/index.cfm>  
For the latest QOF Business Rules v8.5: <http://www.primarycarecontracting.nhs.uk/145.php>  
For GP suppliers GMS Certification status: [www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/](http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/)

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## Frequently Asked Questions

This section outlines the most common questions likely to be asked regarding upgrades to QMAS.

### **When will the upgraded QMAS software be implemented?**

The upgraded software is expected to be available in September 2006.

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### **What will I be able to see before then?**

Existing QMAS functionality is available i.e. all reports for 2005/2006 and earlier are available to view.

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### **Does my clinical system continue to submit my achievement data?**

Yes. This will continue to be submitted each month although submissions for financial year 2006/07 will not be shown on QMAS until the upgrade of QMAS is complete.

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### **When will my GP clinical system supplier have their new data extraction files ready?**

All GP clinical system suppliers are currently developing their software and their new QOF data extract will have to go through the NHS CFH testing process i.e. GMS Accreditation. Once this has been passed they will begin rolling out to their users. The GP clinical system suppliers will keep you informed of their plans.

For GP suppliers GMS accreditation status: [www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/](http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/)

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### **When will the QMAS training website be upgraded?**

The upgraded QMAS training website to reflect the new and revised indicators will be available at the end of August 2006.

For QMAS training: [www.qmastraining.nhs.uk](http://www.qmastraining.nhs.uk)

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### **Will my QMAS user id and password still work?**

If you have accessed QMAS in the last 90 days then your status will still be active. If over 90 days then you will need to contact your PCT QMAS User Administrator to reactivate you as a QMAS user.

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**How do I find out who my PCT QMAS User Administrator is?**

Contact your PCT QOF Lead and ask for the contact details for the PCT QMAS User Administrator.

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**Who do I contact if I have technical problems with QMAS?**

For technical support contact the QMAS support team: 0845 6016907

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**Who do I contact for clarification about the QOF Business Rules?**

Your local Primary Care Contracting Advisor will be able to advise you via your PCT QOF Lead.

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**Where do I find the new GMS Contract for 2006/07?**

Revisions to the GMS Contract 2006-07 are published on the NHS Employers website. See link below

For Revisions to the GMS Contract 2006-07: <http://www.nhsemployers.org/primary/index.cfm>

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**Where do I find the new QOF Business Rules for 2006/07?**

The QOF Business Rules are published on the Primary Care Contracting website. See link below

For the latest QOF Business Rules v8.5: <http://www.primarycarecontracting.nhs.uk/145.php>

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**Are the QMAS Bulletins published on the web?**

Yes. The latest QMAS Bulletins are easily found on the QMAS webpage. All QMAS Bulletins are archived and can be accessed from the QMAS webpage. See link below

For all QMAS Bulletins and Guidance notes visit: [www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/](http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/delivery/programmes/qmas/)

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