

FOD FAQ - August 2005

The key FOD FAQs to be discussed at the next meeting are the SourceID (2) and the Product Codes (9).

1. Filename

The file should be written as 'flat text' to a nominated directory on the designated NBS FTP Server. The file naming convention is:

FODLabcodeDatetime.txt

where

FOD = text

Labcode = 4 character Pulse Code, e.g. T123

DateTime = time and date the file was created in YYYYMMDDHHMMSS format

for example, a file create by hospital T123 at 14:34:33 on 16 June 2005 would be named:

FODT12320050616143433.txt

2. Message Header Line

What values should be set in fields "Protocol Number", "Source ID" and "Destination ID"

Protocol Number = "000005"

SourceID = unconfirmed - need to agree what code will be acceptable. Suggest for testing "C003" (note two padded spaces to make 6 char length). Note, this SourceID will have to be unique to each lab and so be configurable in the extract system.

DestinationID = new fod location - this needs to be agreed on and set up. Suggest for testing purposes "C1 " (note four padded spaces to make 6 char length). Note, this DestinationID will be fixed.

3. Message Footer Line

Should field "No of records" be set to the number of Data Lines in the message?

Just number of data lines, not including envelope

4. Modulus 97

Can you confirm that the "mod97" check sum is the remainder derived when the ASCII value of all characters on the line is divided by 97.

Yes

5. Day Rule

Presumably you will expect details of every unit handled by a Lab to be advised to your system. For example, in the event of a system problem that prevents a message being generated for more than five days, would you expect the next message to include details of units that were actioned prior to the five days rule referred to in Protocol 000005?

Yes we would, so the 5-Day rule will apply from the date of the last message

6. Amendment to Unit Status

There are occasions when the Lab may mark a unit as "transfused", only for the unit to be returned unused to the Lab one or two days later. Presumably in this event, we will issue a "free" transaction that will supersede the previous "transfused" transaction in your system?

Yes, any unit that has a status of F (free), A (allocated), or T (Transfused) may change its status in the future. Note that units marked as W (wasted) cannot change status because they must have been 'confirmed' wasted with a reason. Furthermore those marked as C (confirmed transfusion) cannot change since the 'confirmed' status would be contravened by any change.

7. Name of facility

What term should we use for this facility - "Fate of Donation" or "Blood Component Fate Information" or...?

Not a big issue but would suggest it is "Fate of Donation" - only because it is slightly shorter and we can then refer to the whole system as 'Fate of Donation' which incorporates the 'Blood Component Fate Information' message.

8. Included products

In an existing LabCentre facility that generates BSMS data for non-electronic input to your blood stocks management system, our Labs have the following options:

- a. The ability to exclude red cells data from the generated data*
- b. The ability to restrict the generated data to specific blood products only*

Is it necessary for us to include similar options to filter the data included in the Fate of Donation message?

No. The filtering of the product code into product groups will be done at our end. You should produce a file containing details of all products. If required, we could produce of all product codes we are interested in so that you can only send info on the specified ones but i suspect that it'd be easier for you to send us a complete file and we will ignore those we don't want.

9. Product Codes

The products codes supplied in the message must comply with either codabar or ISBT128. In order to ensure that products are correctly identified, the BSMS will be publishing a list of codabar product codes that should be used. Note, this is to be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Manual files

Re multiple files in a day, we have allowed for the ad-hoc generation of a FOD message based on a user-defined date range. In this event we could have two files in a day that contain different data. Any thoughts?

We will be able to deal with multiple files on a day but the latest version will supersede all previous. However, ad-hoc files can only contain info on fated (W,T,C status) units since data on free (A,F status) units are not identified with a date in the message. Presumably, systems do not independently keep a track of stock levels anyway so this info couldn't be provided.

11. Message delivery

The transfer method discussed at the original meeting involved the BSMS picking up files. Has this changed?

Yes, the premise of the BSMS gaining access to the hospital networks to pick up files was felt to be too hefty a security problem in light of the changes involved in ConnectingForHealth. It has therefore been proposed that the NBS set up an FTP presence that the hospitals can post the files to from which the BSMS can pick up the files for processing. The FTP presence has not yet been set-up. Any test files can be emailed to bsms@nbs.nhs.uk