



<b>Unrestricted</b>					
<b>Data and Business Rules – Records Indicator Set</b>					
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## **New GMS Contract QOF Implementation**

### **Dataset and Business Rules**

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### **Records Indicator Set**

**Amendment History:**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amendment History</b>
Draft 0.3	21-Jun-2003	From Peter Horsfield
1.0	24-Sep-2003	Standard Headers and footers Applied and set to approved.
1.1	03-Nov-2003	Added headers and footers to Version 0.4 received from Pete Horsfield on 03/11/03.
2.0	12-Nov-2003	Amended following 4 Country review
3.0	20-Jan-2004	Amended following January READ Code Release
4.0	04-Feb-2004	Amended following 4 Country, GPSS and internal review
4.1	09-Apr-2004	SNOMED-CT codes added, 4-byte Read codes removed
4.2	09-Jul-2004	Amended following July READ code release
5.0	27-Sep-2004	Amended following 4 Country Review
5.1	18-Jan-2005	Amended following January READ Code Release
5.2	18-Jan-2005	Amended following 4 Country review
6.0	21-July-2005	Signed off following 4 Country review
6.1	21-July-2005	Amended following July 2005 Read Code release and January 2005 SNOMED CT release
6.2	21-Aug-2005	Amended following 4 Country review
7.0	23-Sep-2005	Signed off following 4 Country review
7.1	21-Nov-2005	From Phil Brown
7.2	22-Nov-2005	Amended following review by Peter Horsfield
7.3	3-Dec-2005	Draft revised for internal review
7.4	01-Mar-2006	Amended following internal & 4 Countries review
8.0	15-Mar-2006	Signed off following 4 Country review
8.1	18-May-2006	Responding to queries raised Amend wording for Note 3
8.5	18-May-2006	Approved by NHSE
8.6	20-Oct-2006	April Read Code Release April SNOMED CT Release October Read Code Release Corrections and amendments following feedback
8.7	30-Nov-2006	Response to 4 Country Review: Correct typo in BP_COD cluster Addition of Lloyd George summary codes
9.0	30-Nov-2006	Approved by NHSE
9.1	11-Apr-2007	April 2007 Read Code Release
9.2	15-Jun-2007	Following 4-Country review: Remove smoking exceptions (SMOKEXC_COD cluster) from Records 22.
10.0	18-Jun-2007	Signed off following 4 Country review
10.2	23-Sep-2007	October 2007 Read Code Release October 2007 SNOMED CT Release
11.0	28-Nov-2007	Signed off following 4 Country review
11.1	30-Jun-2008	April 2008 Read Code Release April 2008 SNOMED CT Release QOF Review 2007 (Replace Record 22 with Record 23)
11.2	30-Jun-2008	Following 4-Country review: 137U. removed from SMOK_COD cluster EXSMOK, EXSMOK1 & EXSMOK2 cluster corrected for v2 Read Codes

		CSMOK cluster added Correct Denominator rules 3, 5, 6 and 7 for indicator Records 23 Correct Numerator rules 2, 4 and 5 for indicator Records 23
12.0	24-Jul-2008	Signed off following 4 Country review
12.1	06-Oct-2008	October 2008 Read Code Release October 2008 SNOMED CT Release Application of v12.0 Addendum 2 corrections to EXSMOK1_COD & EXSMOK2_COD Denominator Rule 6 & Numerator Rule 5 (for Records 23)
12.2	26-Nov-2008	Following 4-Country Review: Correction to denominator rules 4, 5 & 6 and Numerator rules 3 & 4 definitions for Records 23
13.0	05-Dec-2008	Signed off following 4 Country review
13.1	20-Feb-2009	QOF Review 2008 – Records 23 amended following DH discussion. Correct Denominator rules 3, and 4 for indicator Records 23 Correct Numerator rules 4 and 5 for indicator Records 23
13.2	09-Mar-2009	Amendment following NHSE review
13.3	27-Apr-2009	Amendment following Four-Country Review
14.0	01-May-2009	Signed off following 4 Country review

## **New GMS contract Q&O framework implementation**

### Dataset and business rules – Records indicator set

#### Notes

- 1) The specified dataset and rulesets are to support analysis of extracted data to reflect the status at a specified point in time of patient records held by the practice. In the context of this document that specified time point is designated the 'Reference date' and identified by the abbreviation 'REF\_DAT'. In interpreting the specification REF\_DAT should be taken to mean midnight of the preceding day (i.e. a REF\_DAT of 01.04.2003 equates to midnight on 31.03.2003).
- 2) To support accurate determination of the population of patients to which the indicators should relate (the denominator population) these rulesets have been compiled with a prior assumption that the reference date is specified prior to extraction of data and is available for computation in the data extraction routine. The reference date will also be required to be included in the data extraction to support processing of rules that are dependent upon it. It is possible that an alternative approach could be adopted in which rules to determine the denominator population by registration status would be applied as a component of rule processing. If this second approach were to be adopted it would be essential to specify default time criteria for determining the registration characteristics of the denominator population during the data extraction process. Additionally there would be a requirement to supplement the dataset and rulesets to support identification of the appropriate denominator population.
- 3) Clinical codes quoted are (where known) from the October 2008 release of Read codes version 2, clinical terms version 3 (CTV3) and SNOMED-CT. For non SNOMED-CT, the codes are shown within the document as a 5 character value to show that the Read Code is for a 5-Byte system.
  - i) Where a '%' wildcard is displayed, the Read Code is filled to 5 characters with full-stops. When implementing a search for the Read Code, only the non full-stop values should be used in the search, For example, a displayed Read Code of c1...% should be implemented as a search for c1%, i.e. should find c1 and any of it's children.
  - ii) Where a range of read codes are displayed, the Read Code is filled to 5 characters with full-stops. When implementing the search, only the non full-stop values should be used in the search, For example, a displayed Read Code range of G342. – G3z.. should find all codes between G342 and G3z (including any children where applicable).
- 4) Datasets comprise a specification of two elements:
  - a) Patient selection criteria. These are the criteria used to determine the patient population against whom the indicators are to be applied.
    - i) Registration status. This determines the current patient population at the practice
    - ii) Diagnostic code status. This determines the current patient population (register size) for a given clinical condition
      - There are three scenarios within the diagnostic code status, these are where
        - There is a single morbidity patient population (disease register) required (e.g. within CHD). Where this occurs, a single set of rules for identifying the patient population is provided.

- There is a single co-morbidity patient population (disease register) required (e.g. within Smoking). Where this occurs, a set of rules for **each** morbidity is provided. A patient **must** only be included in the patient population (register size) **once**.
- There are multiple patient populations (disease registers) required (e.g. within Heart Failure). Where this occurs, a single set of rules for **each** patient population is provided.  
N.B. where there are multiple patient populations (disease registers), it is possible that one or more will also be a co-morbidity patient population (e.g. within Depression)

Where this occurs, details of which register population applies to which indicator(s) are provided. Where the register size applies to an indicator, this is the base denominator population for that indicator.

- b) Clinical data extraction criteria. These are the data items to be exported from the clinical system for subsequent processing to calculate points allocations. They are expressed in the form of a MIQUEST 'Report-style' extract of data.

The record of each patient that satisfies the appropriate selection criteria for a given indicator will be interrogated against the clinical data criteria (also appropriate to that indicator). A report of the data contained in the selected records will be exported in the form of a fixed-format tabular report. Each selected patient will be represented by a single row in the report. Rows will contain a fixed number of fields each containing a single data item. The number of fields in each row and their data content will be determined by the clinical data criteria. Data items that match the clinical data criteria will be exported in the relevant field of the report. Where there is no data to match a specific clinical criterion a null field will be exported.

- 5) Rulesets are specified as multiple rules to be processed sequentially. Processing of rules should terminate as soon as a 'Reject' or 'Select' condition is encountered
- 6) Rules are expressed as logical statements that evaluate as either 'true' or 'false'. The following operators are required to be supported:
- |                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| a) > (greater than) | e) AND |
| b) < (less than)    | f) OR  |
| c) = (equal to)     | g) NOT |
| d) ≠ (not equal to) |        |
- 7) Where date criteria are specified with intervals of multiples of months or years these should be interpreted as calendar months or calendar years.
- 8) The new GMS contract requires that influenza vaccinations should be given between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> March of any given contract year in order to qualify for the relevant indicators. Hence in the contract year 2004 – 2005 the relevant dates will be 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 inclusive. In this document these dates are expressed as variable parameters FLU\_COM and FLU\_END respectively. For the purposes of data extraction these variables will be required to be specified prior to processing the relevant rules.



**Dataset Specification****1) Patient selection criteria:**

a) Registration status

<u>Current registration status</u>	<u>Qualifying criteria</u>
Currently registered for GMS	Most recent registration date < (REF_DAT)
Previously registered for GMS	Any sequential pairing of registration date and deregistration date where both of the following conditions are met: registration date < (REF_DAT); and deregistration date >= (REF_DAT)

**2) Clinical data extraction criteria**

<u>Field Number</u>	<u>Field name</u>	<u>Data item</u>			<u>Qualifying criteria</u>
1	PAT_ID	Patient ID number			Unconditional
2	PAT_AGE	Patient age in years at REF_DAT			Unconditional
3	PAT_DOB	Patient date of birth			Unconditional
4	REG_DAT	Date of patient registration			Latest < (REF_DAT)
5	SMOK_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest < REF_DAT
		137.. - 137D. 137F. - 137H. 137J., 137K. 137M. - 137T. 137V. 137X. - 137h.	365981007% (excluding 266927001, 8392000, 160618006%) 266918002%	Ub0oo% (excluding XE0oo, XaIQi%, Ub0oq, 137L.)	
		(Smoking habit codes)			
6	SMOK_DAT	Date of SMOK_COD			Chosen record
7	NSMOK_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Most recent of SMOK_COD < REF_DAT
		1371.	266919005	XE0oh	
		(Code for never smoked)			
8	NSMOK_DAT	Date of NSMOK_COD			Chosen record
9	EXSMOK_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Most recent of

		1377. - 137B. 137F. 137K. 137N. - 137O. 137S. - 137T.	8392000% (Excluding 8392000, 160618006%)	Ub1na% (Excluding 137L.)	SMOK_COD < REF_DAT
		<i>(Code for ex-smoker)</i>			
10	EXSMOK_DAT	Date of EXSMOK_COD			Chosen record
11	CSMOK_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Most recent of SMOK_COD < REF_DAT
		1372. - 1376. 137C. - 137D. 137G. - 137H. 137J. 137M. 137P. - 137R. 137V. 137X. - 137f. 137h.	365981007% (excluding 8392000%, 266927001) 266918002% (excluding 401201003) 401159003	137R.% XE0og% (excluding XaIuQ) 137C. 137G. 137M. XaIIu XaItg XaJX2	
		<i>(Current smoker codes)</i>			
12	CSMOK_DAT	Date of CSMOK_COD			Chosen record
13	EXSMOK1_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest >= EXSMOK_DAT - 24 months AND < EXSMOK_DAT -12 months
		1377. - 137B. 137F. 137K. 137N. - 137O. 137S. - 137T.	8392000% (Excluding 8392000, 160618006%)	Ub1na% (Excluding 137L.)	
		<i>(Code for ex-smoker)</i>			

14	EXSMOK1_DAT	Date of EXSMOK1_COD			Chosen record
15	EXSMOK2_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest >= (EXSMOK_DAT - 36 months) AND < (EXSMOK_DAT - 24 months)
		1377. - 137B. 137F. 137K. 137N. - 137O. 137S. - 137T.	8392000% (Excluding 8392000, 160618006%)	Ub1na% (Excluding 137L.)	
		(Code for ex-smoker)			
16	EXSMOK2_DAT	Date of EXSMOK2_COD			Chosen record
17	LSMOK_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest < REF_DAT
		1372. - 1376. 137C. - 137D. 137G. - 137H. 137J. 137M. 137P. - 137R. 137V. 137X. - 137f. 137h.	365981007% (excluding 8392000%, 266927001) 266918002% (excluding 401201003) 401159003	137R.% XE0og% (excluding XaIuQ) 137C. 137G. 137M. XaIlu XaItg XaJX2	
		(Smoker codes)			
18	LSMOK_DAT	Date of LSMOK_COD			Chosen record
19	BP_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest < REF_DAT

		246..% (excluding 2460.,2468., 246H., 246I., 246K., 246L., 246M.)	163020007% (excluding 163021006, 163029008, 310357009, 274283008% 310356000) 75367002% (excluding 37087001%, 315612005, 315613000, 386533006%, 6797001%, 251079001, 252076005%)	X773t% (excluding XaI9f, XaI9g) 246..% (excluding 2460., 2468., XaCFN, XaCFO)	
		<i>(BP recording codes)</i>			
20	BP_DAT	Date of BP_COD			Chosen record
21	CSUM_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest < REF_DAT
		9348. 9344. 9311. 9313.	413900009 184229000 261000000103 16531000000104	XaKIK 9344. 9311. 9313.	
		<i>(Clinical summaries recording codes)</i>			
22	CSUM_DAT	Date of CSUM_COD			Chosen record
23	ETH_COD	<i>Read codes v2</i>	<i>SNOMED-CT</i>	<i>CTV3</i>	Latest < REF_DAT
		9i...% 9S...%	92381000000106%	XaJQu% 9S...%	
		<i>(Ethnic recording codes)</i>			
24	ETH_DAT	Date of ETH_COD			Chosen record

**Indicator rulesets**

- 1 Indicator Records 11: The blood pressure of patients aged 45 and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 65% of patients

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">PAT_AGE</a> < 45	Reject	Next rule
2	If <a href="#">BP_DAT</a> >= ( <a href="#">REF_DAT</a> – 5 years)	Select	Next rule
3	If <a href="#">REG_DAT</a> >= ( <a href="#">REF_DAT</a> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">BP_DAT</a> >= ( <a href="#">REF_DAT</a> – 5 years)	Select	Reject

- 2 Indicator Records 15: The practice has up-to-date clinical summaries in at least 60 per cent of patient records.

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">CSUM_DAT</a> ≠ Null	Select	Next Rule
2	If <a href="#">REG_DAT</a> ≥ ( <a href="#">REF_DAT</a> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">CSUM_DAT</a> ≠ Null	Select	Reject

- 3 Indicator Records 17 The blood pressure of patients aged 45 and over is recorded in the preceding 5 years for at least 80% of patients

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> < 45	Reject	Next rule
2	If <u>BP_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 5 years)	Select	Next rule
3	If <u>REG_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>BP_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 5 years)	Select	Reject

- 4 Indicator Records 18: The practice has up-to-date clinical summaries in at least 80 per cent of patient records.

a) Denominator ruleset

<i><u>Rule number</u></i>	<i><u>Rule</u></i>	<i><u>Action if true</u></i>	<i><u>Action if false</u></i>
1	If <u>CSUM_DAT</u> ≠ Null	Select	Next Rule
2	If <u>REG_DAT</u> ≥ ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i><u>Rule number</u></i>	<i><u>Rule</u></i>	<i><u>Action if true</u></i>	<i><u>Action if false</u></i>
1	If <u>CSUM_DAT</u> ≠ Null	Select	Reject

- 5 Indicator Records 20: The practice has up-to-date clinical summaries in at least 70 per cent of patient records.

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>CSUM_DAT</u> ≠ Null	Select	Next Rule
2	If <u>REG_DAT</u> ≥ ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>CSUM_DAT</u> ≠ Null	Select	Reject

- 6 Indicator Records 21: Ethnic origin is recorded for 100% of new registrations from 1st April 2006.

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">REG_DAT</a> >= 01.04.2006	Select	Reject

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <a href="#">ETH_DAT</a> ≠ Null	Select	Reject

- 7 **Indicator Records 23:** The percentage of patients aged over 15 years whose notes record smoking status in the past 27 months.

a) Denominator ruleset

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> < 15	Reject	Next rule
2	If <u>CSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
3	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> > 25 AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> ≠ Null AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> > <u>PAT_DOB</u> +25 years	Select	Next rule
4	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> <= 25 AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
5	If <u>EXSMOK_COD</u> ≠ Null AND <u>EXSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
6	If (( <u>EXSMOK_COD</u> ≠ Null) AND If ( <u>EXSMOK1_COD</u> ≠ Null) AND If ( <u>EXSMOK2_COD</u> ≠ Null)) AND If (( <u>LSMOK_COD</u> = Null) OR If ( <u>LSMOK_DAT</u> < <u>EXSMOK2_DAT</u> ))	Select	Next rule
7	If <u>REG_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 3 months)	Reject	Select

b) Numerator ruleset: To be applied to the above denominator population

<i>Rule number</i>	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Action if true</i>	<i>Action if false</i>
1	If <u>CSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
2	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> > 25 AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> ≠ Null AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> > <u>PAT_DOB</u> +25 years	Select	Next rule
3	If <u>PAT_AGE</u> <= 25 AND <u>NSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
4	If <u>EXSMOK_COD</u> ≠ Null AND <u>EXSMOK_DAT</u> >= ( <u>REF_DAT</u> – 27 months)	Select	Next rule
5	If (( <u>EXSMOK_COD</u> ≠ Null) AND If ( <u>EXSMOK1_COD</u> ≠ Null) AND If ( <u>EXSMOK2_COD</u> ≠ Null)) AND If (( <u>LSMOK_COD</u> = Null) OR If ( <u>LSMOK_DAT</u> < <u>EXSMOK2_DAT</u> ))	Select	Reject

**Additional Notes:**

**Rule 1:** The aim of this rule is to reject any patient, aged under 15.  
True: If the patient is aged under 15, the patient should not be included in the denominator.  
False: If the patient is aged under 15 or over, then the patient is further considered.

After following the logic of Rule 1, any patient that has not been rejected will therefore be considered for this indicator as the patient being of a suitable age.

**Rule 2:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient who's most recent smoking status is 'current smoker' and that it has been recorded in the last 27 months.  
True: If the patient has a latest smoking status recorded in the last 27 months of 'current smoker', then the patient is to be included in both the numerator and the denominator.  
False: If the patient does not have a latest smoking status recorded in the last 27 months of 'current smoker', then the patient is further considered.

Rules 3 & 4 are to handle the scenarios for patients who have 'never smoked'.

**Rule 3:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient aged over 25 that has, as the most recent smoking status, a status of 'never smoked'.  
True: If the patient is aged over 25 and has a latest smoking status of 'never smoked' which has been recorded after the patient's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, then the patient is to be included in both the numerator and the denominator.  
False: If the patient is aged over 25 and does not have a latest smoking status of 'never smoked' recorded after the patient's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, then the patient is further considered.

**Rule 4:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient aged 25 or under that has, as the most recent smoking status, a status of 'never smoked'.  
True: If the patient is aged 25 or under and has a latest smoking status of 'never smoked' which has been recorded in the last 27 months, then the patient is to be included in both the numerator and the denominator.  
False: If the patient is aged 25 or under and does not have a latest smoking status of 'never smoked' recorded in the last 27 months, then the patient is further considered.

Rules 5 & 6 are to handle the scenarios for patients who are 'ex-smokers'.

**Rule 5:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient that has, as the most recent smoking status, a status of 'ex-smoker'.  
True: If the patient has a latest smoking status of 'ex-smoker' which has been recorded in the last 27 months, then the patient is to be included in both the numerator and the denominator.  
False: If the patient does not have a latest smoking status of 'ex-smoker' recorded in the last 27 months, then the patient is further considered.

**Rule 6:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient that has, as the most recent smoking status, a status of 'ex-smoker' and has consecutive 'ex-smoker' status (i.e. unbroken by a period of a 'smoking' status recorded over three consecutive years).  
True: If the patient has a latest smoking status of 'ex-smoker' and has a smoking status of 'ex-smoker' recorded in three consecutive years ending at the date the latest recording of 'ex-smoker' WITHOUT a later smoking status of 'smoker' recorded, then the patient is to be included in both the numerator and the denominator.  
False: If the patient has a latest smoking status of 'ex-smoker' and does not have a smoking status of 'ex-smoker' recorded in three consecutive years WITHOUT a later smoking status of 'smoker' recorded, then the patient is further considered.

If there are three consecutive recordings of an 'ex-smoker' code within the patient record. These recordings should be made within three consecutive 12 month periods and should not be broken by a 'smoker' code.

Therefore this rule checks the patient record against five criteria:

- Firstly, it identifies if an 'ex-smoker' code is recorded in the patient record. The recording selected here is the latest recording of an acceptable code
- Secondly, there is a record of an 'ex-smoker' code recorded between 12 and 24 months before the latest 'ex-smoker' code identified in the first criterion of this rule
- Thirdly, there is a record of an 'ex-smoker' code recorded between 24 and 36 months before the latest 'ex-smoker' code identified in the first criterion of this rule
- Fourthly, there is no record of a 'smoker code', or
- Finally, the date of the latest 'smoker' code is before the date of the 'ex-smoker' code identified in criterion three of this rule.

If all these criteria are met the record is selected into the denominator. If not, then the next rule is applied.

Where NO smoking status satisfying Rules 2 to 6 above are found, then the patient records should be further examined to see if there are any 'exceptions' (Rule 7) that apply before including/excluding the patient in/from the denominator.

**Rule 7:** The aim of this rule is to identify any patient that 'recently registered' at the practice. If the patient has registered at the practice in the last 3 months, the patient should not be included in the denominator.