

Emergency department waiting times National Minimum Data Set

National Health Data Dictionary, Version 12

National Health Data Committee

2003

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Canberra

AIHW Cat. No. HWI 55

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Introduction

A National Minimum Data Set (NMDS) is a core set of data elements agreed by the National Health Information Management Group for mandatory collection and reporting at a national level. One NMDS may include data elements that are also included in another NMDS. A NMDS is contingent upon a national agreement to collect uniform data and to supply it as part of the national collection, but does not preclude agencies and service providers from collecting additional data to meet their own specific needs.

The National Health Data Dictionary contains definitions of data elements that are included in NMDS collections in the health sector, including data elements used to derive some of the performance indicators required under Australian Health Care Agreements (bilateral agreements between the Commonwealth and State/Territory governments about funding and delivery of health services).

The following pages contain the Emergency department waiting times NMDS and its associated data elements and data element concepts.

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Emergency department waiting times NMDS

<i>Admin. status:</i>	CURRENT	1/07/2000	Version number:	1
<i>Metadata type:</i>	NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET			
<i>Start date:</i>	1 July 1999			
<i>End date:</i>				
<i>Latest evaluation date:</i>				
<i>Scope:</i>	The scope of this data set is to be negotiated between Commonwealth and State/Territory Government health authorities. It is likely that data will only be required for reporting by metropolitan hospitals and larger rural/regional hospitals.			
<i>Statistical units:</i>				
<i>Collection methodology:</i>				
<i>National reporting arrangements:</i>	State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation on an annual basis.			
<i>Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated:</i>	Financial years ending 30 June each year			
<i>Data elements included:</i>	Date of commencement of service event, version 2 Date of triage, version 1 Date patient presents, version 2 Emergency department departure status, version 2 [∇] Emergency department waiting time to service delivery, version 2 [∇] Establishment identifier, version 4 [∇] Time of commencement of service event, version 2 Time of triage, version 1 Time patient presents, version 2 Triage category, version 1 Type of visit to emergency department, version 2			
<i>Supporting data elements and data element concepts:</i>	Establishment number, version 4 Establishment sector, version 3 Patient presentation at emergency department, version 1 Patient, version 1 Region code, version 2 State/Territory identifier, version 3			

Data elements in common with other NMDSs:

See Appendix D

Scope links with other NMDSs:

Source organisation:

National Health Information Management Group

Comments:

Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected, or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Data elements included

Date of commencement of service event

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000356	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	The day on which the delivery of a service commences. The service is defined as commencing when a health care professional first takes responsibility for the patient/client's care.		
Context:	Hospital non-admitted patient care and public health care.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Date
Representational layout:	DDMMYYYY
Minimum size:	8
Maximum size:	8

Data domain: Valid dates

Guide for use: For the emergency departments the date of triage is recorded separately. In an emergency department the service event commences when the medical officer (or, if no medical officer is on duty in the emergency department, a treating nurse) provides treatment or diagnostic service. The commencement of a service event does not include contact associated with triage.

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:

- supersedes previous data element Date of service event vers 1
- relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1
- relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2
- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2
- relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1
- relates to the data element Time of commencement of service event vers 2
- relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1
- relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Request for/entry into service event

Data Set Specifications:

NMDS - Emergency department waiting times

Start date

End date

01/07/2001

Comments:

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Date of triage

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000353 **Version No:** 1

Metadata type: Data Element

Admin. status: Current
01/07/98

Definition: The day on which the patient is triaged.

Context: Admitted patient care:
Required to identify the commencement of the service and calculation of waiting times.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational form: Date

Representational layout: DDMMYYYY

Minimum size: 8

Maximum size: 8

Data domain: Valid date

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata: relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2
relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1
relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group
National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Assessment event

Data Set Specifications:	Start date	End date
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/1999	

Comments: This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Date patient presents

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000350	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	The day on which the patient/client presents for the delivery of a service.		
Context:	Admitted patient care.		
	Community health care.		
	Hospital non-admitted patient care:		
	Required to identify commencement of a visit and for calculation of waiting times.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Date
Representational layout:	DDMMYYYY
Minimum size:	8
Maximum size:	8

Data domain: Valid date

Guide for use: For community health care, outreach services and services provided via telephone or telehealth, this may be the date on which the service provider presents to the patient or the telephone/telehealth session commences.

The time of patient presentation at the emergency department is the earliest occasion of being registered clerically or triaged.

The date that the patient presents is not necessarily:

- the listing date for care (see Listing date for care data element concept), nor
- the date on which care is scheduled to be provided, nor
- the date on which commencement of care actually occurs (for admitted patients see Admission date, for hospital non-admitted patient care and community health care see Date of commencement of service event).

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:

- relates to the data element Admission date vers 4
- relates to the data element Date of commencement of service event vers 2
- relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1
- supersedes previous data element Date patient presents vers 1
- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2

relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 2

relates to the data element Time of commencement of service event vers 2

relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1

relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 2

relates to the data element Triage category vers 2

relates to the data element Type of visit to emergency department vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group
National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Request for/entry into service event

Data Set Specifications:

	<i>Start date</i>	<i>End date</i>
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2001	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	

Comments:

This data element is required to identify commencement of a visit and for calculation of waiting times. It supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Emergency department departure status

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000359	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/03		
Definition:	The status of the patient at the end of the non-admitted patient emergency department service episode		
Context:	Non-admitted patient emergency department care.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	N
Minimum size:	1
Maximum size:	1
Data domain:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Admitted to this hospital (including to units or beds within the emergency department) 2 Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode completed – departed without being admitted or referred to another hospital 3 Referred to another hospital for admission 4 Did not wait to be attended by a health care professional 5 Left at own risk after being attended by a health care professional but before the non-admitted patient emergency department service episode was completed 6 Died in emergency department as a non-admitted patient 7 Dead on arrival, not treated in emergency department
Guide for use:	<p>A non-admitted patient emergency department service episode ends when either the patient is admitted or, if the patient is not to be admitted, when the patient is recorded as ready to leave the emergency department or when they are recorded as having left at their own risk.</p> <p>Code 2 includes patients who departed under their own care, under police custody and under the care of a residential aged care facility or other carer. Code 2 excludes those who died in the emergency department, which should be coded to Code 6.</p>
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	<p>relates to the data element Date of commencement of service event vers 2</p> <p>relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2</p> <p>supersedes previous data element Departure status vers 1</p> <p>relates to the data element concept Emergency department – public hospital vers 1</p>

- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
- relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2
- relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1
- relates to the data element Time of commencement of service event vers 2
- relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 2
- relates to the data element Type of visit to emergency department vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National reference group for non-admitted patient data development, 2001–02

Information model link:

NHIM Exit/leave from service event

Data Set Specifications:

	Start date	End date
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	

Comments:

Emergency department waiting time to service delivery

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000347	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Derived Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/01/00		
Definition:	The time elapsed for each patient from presentation in the emergency department to commencement of service by a treating medical officer or nurse.		
Context:	Non-admitted patient emergency department care.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	
Representational layout:	MMMMM
Minimum size:	5
Maximum size:	5
Data domain:	Time in minutes
Guide for use:	Calculated from the date and time of service event minus date and time patient presents. Although triage category 1 is measured in seconds, it is recognised that the data will not be collected with this precision.
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	<p>supersedes previous data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 1</p> <p>relates to the data element concept Emergency department – public hospital vers 1</p> <p>is calculated using Date of commencement of service event vers 2</p> <p>is calculated using Date patient presents vers 2</p> <p>is calculated using Time of commencement of service event vers 2</p> <p>is calculated using Time patient presents vers 2</p>

Administrative Attributes

Source document:		
Source organisation:	National reference group for non-admitted patient data development, 2001–02	
Information model link:	NHIM Performance indicator	
Data Set Specifications:	Start date	End date
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2000	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	

Comments:	It is recognised that at times of extreme urgency or multiple synchronous presentations, or if no medical officer is on duty in the emergency department, this service may be provided by a nurse.
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Establishment identifier

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000050	Version No:	4
Metadata type:	Derived Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/03		
Definition:	Identifier for the establishment in which episode or event occurred. Each separately administered health care establishment to have a unique identifier at the national level.		

Context:

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Alphanumeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	NNA(N)NNNNN
Minimum size:	9
Maximum size:	9

Data domain:	Concatenation of: State/Territory identifier (character position 1) Establishment sector (character position 2) Region code (character positions 3-4) Establishment number (character positions 5-9)
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Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:	supersedes previous data element Establishment identifier vers 3 is composed of Establishment number vers 4 is composed of Establishment sector vers 3 relates to the data element Person identifier vers 1 relates to the data element Person identifier type – health care vers 1 is composed of Region code vers 2 is composed of State/Territory identifier vers 3
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Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:	National Health Data Committee
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Information model link:

NHIM Organisation characteristic

Data Set Specifications:

	Start date	End date
NMDS - Admitted patient care	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Admitted patient mental health care	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Admitted patient palliative care	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Alcohol and other drug treatment services	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Community mental health care	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Community mental health establishments	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Elective surgery waiting times	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Perinatal	01/07/2003	
NMDS - Public hospital establishments	01/07/2003	
DSS - Health care client identification	01/01/2003	

Comments:

Establishment identifier should be able to distinguish between all health care establishments nationally.

Time of commencement of service event

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000357	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	The time at which the delivery of a service commences. The service is defined as commencing when a health care professional first takes responsibility for the patient/client's care.		
Context:	Community health care. Hospital non-admitted patient care.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Time
Representational layout:	HHMM
Minimum size:	4
Maximum size:	4
Data domain:	Valid time in 24-hour clock format.
Guide for use:	24-hour clock format.
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates to the data element Date of commencement of service event vers 2 relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1 relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2 relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1 relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2 relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1 supersedes previous data element Time of service event vers 1 relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1 relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 1

Administrative Attributes

Source document:	
Source organisation:	National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM - Service provision event

Data Set Specifications:

NMDS - Emergency department waiting times

Start date

End date

01/07/2001

Comments:

Time of triage

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000354	Version No:	1
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/98		
Definition:	The time at which the patient is triaged.		
Context:	Admitted patient care:		
	Required to identify the commencement of the service and calculation of waiting times.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Time
Representational layout:	HHMM
Minimum size:	4
Maximum size:	4
Data domain:	Valid time in 24-hour clock format.
Guide for use:	24-hour clock format.
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates to the data element Admission date vers 4 relates to the data element Admission time vers 2 relates to the data element Date of service event vers 1 relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1 relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2 relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1 relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2 relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1 relates to the data element Time of commencement of service event vers 2 relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 2 relates to the data element Triage category vers 1 relates to the data element Type of visit to emergency department vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group
National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Assessment event

Data Set Specifications:

NMDS - Emergency department waiting times

Start date

End date

01/07/1999

Comments:

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Time patient presents

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000351	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	The time at which the patient presents for the delivery of a service.		
Context:	Admitted patient care.		
	Community health care.		
	Hospital non-admitted patient care:		
	Required to identify commencement of a visit and for calculation of waiting times.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Time
Representational layout:	HHMM
Minimum size:	4
Maximum size:	4

Data domain: Time in 24-hour clock format.

Guide for use: For community health care, outreach services and services provided via telephone or telehealth, this may be the time at which the service provider presents to the patient or the telephone/telehealth session commences.

The time of patient presentation at the emergency department is the earliest occasion of being registered clerically or triaged.

The time that the patient presents is not necessarily:

- the listing time for care (see Listing date for care data element concept for an analogous concept), nor
- the time at which care is scheduled to be provided, nor
- the time at which commencement of care actually occurs (for admitted patients see Admission time, for hospital non-admitted patient care and community health care see Time of commencement of service event).

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata: relates to the data element Admission time vers 2
relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1
relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2
relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2

relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1

relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1

supersedes previous data element Time patient presents vers 1

relates to the data element Triage category vers 1

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group
National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Request for/entry into service event

Data Set Specifications:

	<i>Start date</i>	<i>End date</i>
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2001	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	

Comments:

This data element is required to identify commencement of a visit and for calculation of waiting times. It supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Triage category

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000355	Version No:	1
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/98		
Definition:	The urgency of the patient's need for medical and nursing care.		
Context:	Emergency department care: Required to provide data for analysis of emergency department processes.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	N
Minimum size:	1
Maximum size:	1
Data domain:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Resuscitation: immediate (within seconds) 2 Emergency: within 10 minutes 3 Urgent: within 30 minutes 4 Semi-urgent: within 60 minutes 5 Non-urgent: within 120 minutes

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods: This triage classification is to be used in the emergency departments of hospitals. Patients will be triaged into one of five categories on the National Triage Scale according to the triageur's response to the question: 'This patient should wait for medical care no longer than ...?'.
The triage category is allocated by an experienced registered nurse or medical practitioner. If the triage category changes, record the more urgent category.

Related metadata:

relates to the data element Admission date vers 4
relates to the data element Admission time vers 2
relates to the data element Date of service event vers 1
relates to the data element Date of triage vers 1
relates to the data element Date patient presents vers 2
relates to the data element Emergency department departure status vers 2
relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2
relates to the data element Non-admitted patient vers 1
relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1
relates to the data element Time of commencement of service event vers 2

relates to the data element Time of triage vers 1

relates to the data element Time patient presents vers 2

relates to the data element Type of visit to emergency department vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document: National Triage Scale, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine

Source organisation:

Information model link:

NHIM Assessment event

Data Set Specifications:

NMDS - Emergency department waiting times

NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care

Start date

End date

01/07/1999

01/07/2003

Comments:

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Type of visit to emergency department

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000352	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	The reason the patient presents to the emergency department.		
Context:	Hospital non-admitted patient care: Required for analysis of emergency department services.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	N
Minimum size:	1
Maximum size:	1

Data domain:	1	Emergency presentation: attendance for an actual or suspected condition which is sufficiently serious to require acute unscheduled care.
	2	Return visit, planned: presentation is planned and is a result of a previous emergency department presentation or return visit.
	3	Pre-arranged admission: a patient who presents at the emergency department for either clerical, nursing or medical processes to be undertaken, and admission has been pre-arranged by the referring medical officer and a bed allocated.
	4	Patient in transit: the emergency department is responsible for care and treatment of a patient awaiting transport to another facility.
	5	Dead on arrival: a patient who is dead on arrival at the emergency department.

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:	relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to admission vers 1
	relates to the data element Emergency department waiting time to service delivery vers 2
	relates to the data element concept Patient presentation at emergency department vers 1
	relates to the data element Triage category vers 1
	supersedes previous data element Type of visit vers 1

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: National Institution Based Ambulatory Model Reference Group
National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Request for/entry into service event

Data Set Specifications:

	Start date	End date
NMDS - Emergency department waiting times	01/07/2001	
NMDS - Non-admitted patient emergency department care	01/07/2003	

Comments:

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Supporting data elements and data element concepts

Establishment number

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000377	Version No:	4
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/03		
Definition:	An identifier for an establishment, unique within the State or Territory.		
Context:	All health services.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Identification number
Representational layout:	NNNNN
Minimum size:	5
Maximum size:	5
Data domain:	Valid establishment number
Guide for use:	
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	is a composite part of Establishment identifier vers 4 supersedes previous data element Establishment number vers 3

Administrative Attributes

Source document:		
Source organisation:		
Information model link:	NHIM Organisation characteristic	
Data Set Specifications:		Start date End date
DSS - Health care client identification		01/01/2003

Comments:	This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times. Establishment number should be a unique code for the health care establishment used in that State/Territory or uniquely at a national level.
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Establishment sector

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000379	Version No:	3
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/01		
Definition:	A section of the health care industry with which a health care establishment can identify.		

Context:

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	N
Minimum size:	1
Maximum size:	1

Data domain:	1	Public
	2	Private

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata: is a composite part of Establishment identifier vers 4
supersedes previous data element Establishment sector vers 2

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Information model link:

NHIM Organisational setting

Data Set Specifications:	Start date	End date
DSS - Health care client identification	01/01/2003	

Comments:

Patient presentation at emergency department

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000349

Version No: 1

Metadata type: Data Element Concept

Admin. status: Current

01/07/98

Definition: The presentation of a patient at an Emergency department occurs following the arrival of the patient at the Emergency department and is the earliest occasion of being:

- registered clerically
- triaged.

Context: Institutional health care.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:

Representational form:

Representational layout:

Minimum size:

Maximum size:

Data domain:

Guide for use: Provided with a service by a treating medical officer or nurse. (In hospital data collection systems, the time and date of the first contact would be selected from the earliest three different recorded times.)

The act of receiving treatment in the Emergency department is logically preceded by some form of triage event – either formally or informally. For instance, a patient may be so critically ill that they by-pass the formal triage process to receive resuscitative intervention. However, the act of prioritising access to care according to the level of need has still occurred.

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:

Administrative Attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Information model link:

NHIM Request for/entry into service event

Data Set Specifications:

Start date

End date

Comments:

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS – Emergency department waiting times.

Patient

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000117	Version No:	1
Metadata type:	Data Element Concept		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/95		
Definition:	A patient is a person for whom a hospital accepts responsibility for treatment and/or care. There are two categories of patient – admitted and non-admitted patients. Boarders are not patients.		
Context:	Admitted patient care and public hospital establishments.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	
Representational form:	
Representational layout:	
Minimum size:	
Maximum size:	
Data domain:	
Guide for use:	
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	relates to the data element concept Admitted patient vers 3

Administrative Attributes

Source document:			
Source organisation:	National Health Data Committee		
Information model link:			
	NHIM Recipient role		
Data Set Specifications:		Start date	End date

Comments:	While the concept of a person for whom a service provider accepts responsibility for treatment or care is also applicable to non-admitted patient and public hospital establishments care and to welfare services, different terminology is often used in these other care settings e.g. client, resident.
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Region code

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000378	Version No:	2
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/97		
Definition:	An identifier for location of health services in a defined geographic or administrative area.		
Context:	All health services.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Alphanumeric
Representational form:	Code
Representational layout:	AN
Minimum size:	1
Maximum size:	2
Data domain:	Any valid region code created by a jurisdiction.
Guide for use:	Domain values are specified by individual States/Territories. Regions may also be known as Areas or Districts.
Verification rules:	
Collection methods:	
Related metadata:	is a composite part of Establishment identifier vers 4

Administrative Attributes

Source document:		
Source organisation:		
Information model link:		
NHIM Organisation characteristic		
Data Set Specifications:	Start date	End date
DSS - Health care client identification	01/01/2003	

Comments:

State/Territory identifier

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Knowledgebase ID:	000380	Version No:	3
Metadata type:	Data Element		
Admin. status:	Current		
	01/07/03		
Definition:	An identifier for Australian State or Territory.		
Context:	Public health care.		

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric		
Representational form:	Code		
Representational layout:	N		
Minimum size:	1		
Maximum size:	1		
Data domain:	1	New South Wales	
	2	Victoria	
	3	Queensland	
	4	South Australia	
	5	Western Australia	
	6	Tasmania	
	7	Northern Territory	
	8	Australian Capital Territory	
	9	Other territories (Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and Jervis Bay Territory)	

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related metadata:	relates to the data element Address type vers 1
	relates to the data element Australian postcode vers 1
	relates to the data element Postal delivery point identifier vers 1
	is a composite part of Establishment identifier vers 4
	supersedes previous data element State identifier vers 2
	relates to the data element Suburb/town/locality vers 1

Administrative Attributes

Source document: Adapted from Australian Standard Geographic Classification, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Catalogue No. 1216.0

Source organisation: National Health Data Committee

Information model link:

NHIM Address element

Data Set Specifications:

DSS - Health care client identification

Start date

End date

01/01/2003

Comments: