Number of available beds for admitted patients

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000255   Version number: 2

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration Authority: NHIMG

Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: An available bed is a bed which is immediately available to be used by an admitted patient or resident if required. A bed is immediately available for use if it is located in a suitable place for care with nursing and auxiliary staff available within a reasonable period.

Inclusions: both occupied and unoccupied beds are included. For residential aged care services, the number of approved beds includes beds approved for respite care.

Exclusions: surgical tables, recovery trolleys, delivery beds, cots for normal neonates, emergency stretchers / beds not normally authorised or funded and beds designated for same-day non-admitted patient care are excluded. Beds in wards which were closed for any reason (except weekend closures for beds / wards staffed and available on weekdays only) are also excluded.

Context: Necessary to provide an indicator of the availability and type of service for an establishment.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE

Representation layout: NNNN

Minimum Size: 1

Maximum Size: 4

Data Domain: NOVAL   Average available beds, rounded to the nearest

whole number

Guide For Use: The average bed is to be calculated from monthly figures.

Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Number of available beds for admitted patients version 1
relates to the data element Admitted patient version 3

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

Comments: This National Health Data Dictionary entry was amended during 1996-97. Until then, both average and end-of-year counts of available beds were included, and the end-of-year counts used as surrogates for the average counts if the latter were unavailable. The average count is more useful for accurate characterisation of establishments and comparisons.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM   Aggregate resource

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

NMDS - Public hospital establishments   From 01-Jul-97 to

NMDS - Community mental health establishments   From 01-Jul-98 to