

Episode of treatment for alcohol and other drugs— number of service contacts

Metadata item type:	Data Element Concept
METEOR identifier:	269580
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 01/03/2005
Definition:	Number of service contacts recorded between a client and the service provider within a treatment episode for the purpose of providing alcohol and other drug treatment.
Context:	Alcohol and other drug treatment services

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class:	Episode of treatment for alcohol and other drugs
Definition:	The period of contact, with defined dates of commencement and cessation, between a client and a treatment provider or team of providers in which there is no change in the main treatment type or the principal drug of concern, and there has not been a non-planned absence of contact for greater than three months.
Context:	Alcohol and drug treatment services. This concept is required to provide the basis for a standard approach to recording and monitoring patterns of service utilisation by clients.
Specialisation of:	Service episode

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	<p>A treatment episode must have a defined date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs and a date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs.</p> <p>A treatment episode can have only one main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs and only one principal drug of concern. If the main treatment or principal drug changes then the treatment episode is closed and a new treatment episode is opened.</p> <p>A treatment episode may also be considered closed (ceased) if there is a change in the treatment delivery setting or the service delivery outlet. Where the change reflects a substantial alteration in the nature of the treatment episode, for instance where an agency operates in more than one treatment setting (or outlet) they may consider that a change from one setting (or outlet), to another necessitates closure of one episode and commencement of a new one.</p>
Collection methods:	Is taken as the period starting from the date of commencement of treatment and ending at the date of cessation of treatment episode.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs National Minimum Data Set - Working Group
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Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property: [Number of service contacts](#)

Definition: A count of service contacts between a service recipient and a service provider.

Property group: [Performance indicators](#)

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data element concept attributes

Relational attributes

**Data Elements
implementing this Data
Element Concept:**

[Episode of treatment for alcohol and other drugs—number of service contacts, total
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- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005