

Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time (at removal), total days N[NNN]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list
METEOR identifier:	269960
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Superseded 13/12/2011
Definition:	The time elapsed (in days) for a patient on the elective surgery waiting list from the date they were added to the waiting list for the procedure to the date they were removed from the waiting list.
Context:	Elective surgery
Data Element Concept:	Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[NNN]
Maximum character length:	4
Unit of measure:	Day

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

The number of days is calculated by subtracting the listing date for care from the removal date, minus any days when the patient was 'not ready for care', and also minus any days the patient was waiting with a less urgent clinical urgency category than their clinical urgency category at removal.

Days when the patient was not ready for care is calculated by subtracting the date(s) the person was recorded as 'not ready for care' from the date(s) the person was subsequently recorded as again being 'ready for care'.

If, at any time since being added to the waiting list for the elective surgical procedure, the patient has had a less urgent clinical urgency category than the category at removal, then the number of days waited at the less urgent clinical urgency category should be subtracted from the total number of days waited.

In cases where there has been only one category reassignment (i.e. to the more urgent category attached to the patient at removal) the number of days at the less urgent clinical urgency category should be calculated by subtracting the listing date for care from the category reassignment date. If the patient's clinical urgency was reclassified more than once, days spent in each period of less urgent clinical urgency than the one applying at removal should be calculated by subtracting one category reassignment date from the subsequent category reassignment date, and then adding the days together.

When a patient is removed from an elective surgery waiting list, for admission on an elective basis for the procedure they were awaiting, but the surgery is cancelled and the patient remains on or is placed back on the waiting list within the same hospital, the time waited on the list should continue.

Therefore at the removal date, the patient's waiting time includes the number of days waited on an elective surgery waiting list, both before and after any cancelled surgery admission. The time waited before the cancelled surgery should be counted as part of the total time waited by the patient.

Comments:

Elective surgery waiting times data collections include measures of waiting times at removal and at designated census dates. This metadata item is used to measure waiting times at removal whereas the metadata item waiting time at a census date measures waiting times at a designated census date.

The calculation of waiting times for patients, who are transferred from an elective surgery waiting list managed by one public acute hospital to another, will be investigated in the future. In this case, the amount of time waited on previous lists would follow the patient to the next. Therefore when the patient is removed from the waiting list (for admission or other reason), their waiting time would include the total number of days on all lists (less days not ready for care and days in lower urgency categories).

This is a critical elective surgery waiting times metadata item. It is used to determine whether patients were overdue, or had extended waits when they were removed from the waiting list. It is used to assist doctors and patients in making decisions about hospital referral, to assist in the planning and management of hospitals and in health care related research.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: National Health Data Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes  [Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list, version 2, Derived DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (19.0 KB) *No registration status*

Has been superseded by [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time \(at removal\), total days N\[NNN\]](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015

- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Incomplete 24/03/2014

Is used in the formation of [Elective surgery waiting list episode—extended wait patient indicator, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005

Is used in the formation of [Elective surgery waiting list episode—overdue patient status, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 13/12/2011

Is used in the formation of [Elective surgery waiting list episode—overdue patient status, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 12/06/2015

Is formed using [Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 12/06/2015

Is formed using [Elective care waiting list episode—listing date for care, DDMMYYYY](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 16/06/2020

Is formed using [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting list removal date, DDMMYYYY](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 16/06/2020

Is formed using [Episode of admitted patient care—admission date, DDMMYYYY](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018
- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Candidate 16/07/2015
- [Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018
- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 17/06/2020

See also [National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Patients who received their surgery within clinically recommended times 2011-12](#)

- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Superseded 28/05/2014

See also [National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Patients who received their surgery within clinically recommended times 2012-13](#)

- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b-Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time, 2013](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 30/04/2014

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b-Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time, 2014](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 14/01/2015

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 34-Waiting times for elective surgery, 2012](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 25/06/2013

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2005

Implementation start date: 01/07/2002

Implementation end date: 30/06/2006

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2006-09 Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2008

Implementation start date: 01/07/2006

Implementation end date: 30/06/2009

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2009-12 Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Candidate 16/07/2015
[Health](#), Superseded 13/12/2011

Implementation start date: 01/07/2009

Implementation end date: 30/06/2012

DSS specific information:

Data collected for this item from 1 January 2012 to 30 June 2012 may not comply with the above requirements. Therefore, data collected from 1 January 2012 to 30 June 2012 may not be directly comparable to data collected between 1 July 2011 and 31 December 2011.

Implementation in Indicators:

Used as Numerator

[National Healthcare Agreement: P34-Waiting times for elective surgery. 2010 Health](#), Superseded 08/06/2011

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days. 2013 Health](#), Superseded 30/04/2014

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days. 2014 Health](#), Superseded 14/01/2015

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days. 2015 Health](#), Superseded 08/07/2016

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b-Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time. 2013 Health](#), Superseded 30/04/2014

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b-Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time. 2014 Health](#), Superseded 14/01/2015

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 34-Waiting times for elective surgery. 2011 Health](#), Superseded 31/10/2011

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 34-Waiting times for elective surgery. 2012 Health](#), Superseded 25/06/2013