

Establishment—number of patient days, total N[N(7)]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Patient days
METEOR identifier:	270045
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 01/03/2005• National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016
Definition:	The total number of days for all patients who were admitted for an episode of care and who separated during a specified reference period.
Data Element Concept:	Establishment—number of patient days

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[N(7)]
Maximum character length:	8
Unit of measure:	Day

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

A day is measured from midnight to 2359 hours.

The following basic rules are used to calculate the number of patient days for [overnight stay patients](#):

- The day the patient is admitted is a patient day
- If the patient remains in hospital from midnight to 2359 hours count as a patient day
- The day a patient goes on leave is counted as a leave day
- If the patient is on leave from midnight to 2359 hours count as a leave day
- The day the patient returns from leave is counted as a patient day
- The day the patient is separated is not counted as a patient day.

The following additional rules cover special circumstances and in such cases, override the basic rules:

- Patients admitted and separated on the same date ([same-day patients](#)) are to be given a count of one patient day
- If the patient is admitted and goes on leave on the same day, count as a patient day
- If the patient returns from leave and goes on leave on the same date, count as a leave day.
- If the patient returns from leave and is separated, it is not counted as either a patient day or a leave day.
- If a patient goes on leave the day they are admitted and does not return from leave until the day they are discharged, count as one patient day (the day of admission is counted as a patient day, the day of separation is not counted as a patient day).

When calculating total patient days for a specified period:

- Count the total patient days of those patients separated during the specified period including those admitted before the specified period
- Do not count the patient days of those patients admitted during the specified period who did not separate until the following reference period
- Contract patient days are included in the count of total patient days. If it is a requirement to distinguish contract patient days from other patient days, they can be calculated by using the rules contained in the data element: total contract patient days.

Source and reference attributes

Origin: National Health Data Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes  [Patient days, version 3, Derived DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (17.2 KB) *No registration status*

Is formed using [Episode of admitted patient care \(newborn\)—number of qualified days, total N\[NNNNN\]](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018
- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Recorded 16/07/2015
- [Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019

See also [Establishment—number of hospital patient days under Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia surveillance, total days N\[NNNNN\]](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 10/06/2022

See also [Establishment—number of hospital patient days under Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance, total days N\[NNNNN\]](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

See also [Establishment—number of patient episodes of healthcare associated Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia, total episodes N\[NNNNN\]](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 15/11/2012

See also [Establishment—number of patient episodes of healthcare-associated staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection, total episodes N\[NNNNN\]](#)

- [Health](#), Qualified 18/07/2022

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Healthcare-associated infections NBEDS 2016-Health](#), Superseded 10/06/2022

Implementation start date: 01/07/2016

DSS specific information:

Patient days for [unqualified newborns](#), [hospital boarders](#), and [posthumous organ procurement](#) are excluded.

[Healthcare-associated infections NBEDS 2021-Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

Implementation start date: 01/07/2021

DSS specific information:

Patient days for [unqualified newborns](#), [hospital boarders](#), and [posthumous organ procurement](#) are excluded.

[National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: National Staphylococcus aureus Bacteraemia Dataset 2012-13 National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Superseded 09/04/2015

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

[National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: National Staphylococcus aureus Bacteraemia Dataset 2013-14 National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

[Surveillance of healthcare associated infection: Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia NBPDSHealth](#), Standard 15/11/2012

[Surveillance of healthcare associated infection: Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection NBPDSHealth](#), Qualified 18/07/2022