# Surgical specialty

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### Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000161 Version number: 1

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Authority: Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: The area of clinical expertise held by the doctor who will perform the

elective surgery.

Context: Elective surgery:

Many hospitals manage their waiting lists on a specialty basis. Current data show that the total ready for care times waited and numbers of long wait patients vary significantly between specialties. Furthermore, the hospital capacity to handle the demand for elective

surgery varies with specialty.

## Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational CODE

form:

Representation NN

layout:

Minimum Size: 2 Maximum Size: 2

Data Domain: 01 Cardio-thoracic surgery

Ear, nose and throat surgery

General surgery
Gynaecology
Neurosurgery
Ophthalmology
Orthopaedic surgery

08 Plastic surgery

09 Urology

10 Vascular surgery

11 Other

#### Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: Hospital Access Program Waiting Lists Working Group

National Health Data Committee Waiting Times Working Group

Comments: The above classifications are consistent with the Recommended Medical Specialties and Qualifications agreed by the National Specialist Qualification Advisory Committee of Australia, September 1993. Vascular surgery is a subspecialty of general surgery. The Royal Australian College of Surgeons has a training program for vascular surgeons. The specialties listed above refer to the surgical component of these specialties - ear, nose and throat surgery refers to the surgical component of the specialty otolaryngology; gynaecology refers to the gynaecological surgical component of obstetrics and gynaecology; ophthalmology refers to the surgical component of the specialty (patients awaiting argon laser phototherapy are not included).

#### Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element **NHIM** Labour characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

From 01-Jan-95 to NMDS - Elective surgery waiting times