
Occasions of service

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000209 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DERIVED DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: The number of occasions of examination, consultation, treatment or other service provided to a patient in each functional unit of a health service establishment. Each diagnostic test or simultaneous set of related diagnostic tests for the one patient referred to a hospital pathology department consists of one occasion of service.
Context: Occasions of service are required as a measure of non-admitted patient service provision.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE
Representation layout: NNNNNNN
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 7
Data Domain: NOVAL Number of occasions of service
Collection Methods: The definition does not distinguish case complexity for non-admitted patients.
For example, an occasion of service could vary in complexity from a simple urine glucose test to a complete biochemical analysis of all body fluids. Ideally, average case complexity values would be available for the various categories of non-admitted patients in the same way that average Diagnosis Related Group weighted separations are becoming available for acute admitted patients. However, such measures would require the development of patient record databases for non-admitted patients. This does not imply an inadequacy in definition.
For admitted patients the concept of a separation is widely

accepted. Separations can vary between admission for overnight observation to open heart surgery. The issue of case complexity for both admitted and non-admitted patients is a separate issue and beyond the scope of the proposed summary establishment-level activity data.

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:
Source Organisation: National minimum data set working parties

Comments: .

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Performance indicator

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

NMDS - Public hospital establishments From 01-Jul-89 to
