
Type of non-admitted patient care

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: 000231 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DERIVED DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: This data element identifies types of services provided to non-admitted patients in different institutional ways in different systems. It is not a summary casemix classification.
Context: Required to describe the broad types of services provided to non-admitted patients, community patients and outreach clients.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE
Representation layout: NNNNNNN
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 7
Data Domain: NOVAL Count number of non-admitted patient occasions of service.
Guide For Use: A count is required for each of the following categories (definitions of each are given below):

Emergency department and emergency services:
A9.1 Emergency services

Outpatient services:
A9.2 Dialysis
A9.3 Pathology
A9.4 Radiology and organ imaging
A9.5 Endoscopy and related procedures
A9.6 Other medical/surgical/diagnostic
A9.7 Mental health

- A9.8 Drug and alcohol
- A9.9 Dental
- A9.10 Pharmacy
- A9.11 Allied health services

Other non-admitted services:

- A9.12 Community health services
- A9.13 District nursing services
- A9.14 Other outreach services

Definitions:

A9.1 Emergency services:

Services to patients who are not admitted and who receive treatment that was either unplanned or carried out in designated emergency departments within a hospital. Unplanned patients are patients who have not been booked into the hospital before receiving treatment. In general it would be expected that most patients would receive surgical or medical treatment. However, where patients receive other types of treatment that are provided in emergency departments these are to be included. The exceptions are for dialysis and endoscopy and related procedures which have been recommended for separate counting.

A9.2 Dialysis:

This represents all non-admitted patients receiving dialysis within the establishment. Where patients receive treatment in a ward or clinic classified elsewhere (for example, an emergency department), those patients are to be counted as dialysis patients and to be excluded from the other category. All forms of dialysis which are undertaken as a treatment necessary for renal failure are to be included.

A9.3 Pathology:

This includes all occasions of service to non-admitted patients from designated pathology laboratories. Occasions of service to all patients from other establishments should be counted separately.

A9.4 Radiology and organ imaging:

This includes all occasions of service to non-admitted patients undertaken in radiology (X-ray) departments as well as in specialised organ imaging clinics carrying out ultrasound, computerised tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging.

A9.5 Endoscopy and related procedures:

This should include all occasions of service to non-admitted patients for endoscopy including:

- cystoscopy
- gastroscopy
- oesophagoscopy
- duodenoscopy
- colonoscopy
- bronchoscopy
- laryngoscopy.

Where one of these procedures is carried out in a ward or clinic classified elsewhere, for example in the emergency department, the occasion is to be included under endoscopy and related procedures, and to be excluded from the other category. Care must be taken to ensure procedures on admitted patients are excluded from this category.

A9.6 Other medical / surgical / diagnostic:

Any occasion of service to a non-admitted patient given at a designated unit primarily responsible for the provision of medical/surgical or diagnostic services which has not been covered in the above. These include ECG, obstetrics, nuclear medicine, general medicine, general surgery, fertility and so on.

A9.7 Mental health:

All occasions of service to non-admitted patients attending designated psychiatric or mental health units within hospitals.

A9.8 Alcohol and drug:

All occasions of service to non-admitted patients attending designated drug and alcohol units within hospitals.

A9.9 Dental:

All occasions of service to non-admitted patients attending designated dental units within hospitals.

A9.10 Pharmacy:

This item includes all occasions of service to non-admitted patients from pharmacy departments. Those drugs dispensed/administered in other departments such as the emergency department, or outpatient departments, are to be counted by the respective departments.

A9.11 Allied health services:

This includes all occasions of service to non-admitted patients where services are provided at units/clinics providing treatment/counselling to patients. These include units primarily concerned with physiotherapy, speech therapy, family planning, dietary advice, optometry, occupational therapy and so on.

A9.12 Community health services:

Occasions of service to non-admitted patients provided by designated community health units within the establishment.

Community health units include:

- baby clinics
- immunisation units
- aged care assessment teams
- other.

A9.13 District nursing service:

Occasions of service to non-admitted patients which:

- are for medical/surgical/psychiatric care
- are provided by a nurse, paramedic or medical officer
- involve travel by the service provider*
- are not provided by staff from a unit classified in the community health category above.

A9.14 Other outreach services:

Occasions of service to non-admitted patients which:

- involve travel by the service provider*
- are not classified in allied health or community health services above.

*Travel does not include movement within an establishment, movement between sites in a multi-campus establishment or between establishments. Such cases should be classified under the appropriate non-admitted patient category.

It is intended that these activities should represent non-medical/surgical/psychiatric services. Activities such as home cleaning, meals on wheels, home maintenance and so on should be included.

A patient who first contacts the hospital and receives non-admitted care, for example through emergency departments, and is subsequently admitted, should have both components of care enumerated separately. Where possible, non-admitted occasions of service that are provided to patients who are subsequently admitted should be identified as a subset of the total occasions of

service.

Collection Methods: The list of categories was to be developed using typical functional units or cost centres within existing institutions. These would include designated wards or departments and specialised clinics. Although the current statistical/financial returns submitted to the various health authorities by their hospitals do not provide a minimum subset, an effort has been made to define the categories in respect to those areas commonly collected. Many functional units provide services to both admitted patients and non-admitted patients, for example pathology. Only occasions of service for non-admitted patients should be included in this section.

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National minimum data set working parties

Comments: Outreach/community care is care delivered by hospital employees to the patient in the home, place of work or other non-hospital site. The distinction between non-admitted patient care and outreach care is that for non-admitted patient care the patients travel to the health care providers while for outreach care the health care providers travel to the patients.

This distinction creates difficulties for community health centres. These centres are to be included in the national minimum data set where they are funded as sections within establishments that fall within the scope of the National Health Data Dictionary.

For example, baby clinics, immunisation groups or aged care assessment teams, which are funded through acute hospitals, may provide care to some clients within the hospital grounds or externally. It is intended that all community health activity be measured under community health regardless of where the services are provided.

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-94 to
