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# Patient listing status

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**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: 000120                      Version number: 3  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NHIMG                      Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-MAR-05  
Definition: An indicator of the person's readiness to begin the process leading directly to being admitted to hospital for the awaited procedure. A patient may be 'ready for care' or 'not ready for care'.  
Context:

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: CODE  
Representation layout: N  
Minimum Size: 1  
Maximum Size: 1  
Data Domain: 1                      Ready for care  
                  2                      Not ready for care

Guide For Use: Ready for care patients are those who are prepared to be admitted to hospital or to begin the process leading directly to admission. These could include investigations/procedures done on an outpatient basis, such as autologous blood collection, pre-operative diagnostic imaging or blood tests.

Not ready for care patients are those who are not in a position to be admitted to hospital. These patients are either:

- staged patients whose medical condition will not require or be amenable to surgery until some future date; for example, a patient who has had internal fixation of a fractured bone and who will require removal of the fixation device after a suitable time; or

- deferred patients who for personal reasons are not yet prepared to be admitted to hospital; for example, patients with work or other commitments which preclude their being admitted to hospital for a time.

Not ready for care patients could be termed staged and deferred waiting list patients, although currently health authorities may use different terms for the same concepts.

Staged and deferred patients should not be confused with patients whose operation is postponed for reasons other than their own unavailability; for example, surgeon unavailable, operating theatre time unavailable owing to emergency workload. These patients are still 'ready for care'. Periods when patients are not ready for care should be excluded in determining 'Waiting time at admission' and 'Waiting time at a census date'.

Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Patient listing status version 2  
is a qualifier of Category reassignment date version 2  
is used in conjunction with Waiting list category version 3  
is a qualifier of Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list version 2  
relates to the data element Hospital waiting list version 2

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### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document:

Source Organisation: Hospital Access Program Waiting Lists Working Group  
Waiting Times Working Group  
National Health Data Committee

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Comments: Only patients ready for care are to be included in the NMDS - Elective surgery waiting times. The dates when a patient listing status changes need to be recorded. A patient's classification may change if he or she is examined by a clinician during the waiting period, i.e. undergoes clinical review. The need for clinical review varies with the patient's condition and is therefore at the discretion of the treating clinician. The waiting list information system should be able to record dates when the classification is changed (data element Category reassignment date).

At the Waiting Times Working Group meeting on 9 September 1996, it was agreed to separate the data elements Patient listing status and Clinical urgency as the combination of these items had led to confusion.

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## *Data Element Links*

### *Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

NHIM Request for / entry into service event

### *Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

NMDS - Elective surgery waiting times From 01-Jul-97 to

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