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# Separation date

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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: 000043 Version number: 5  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-MAR-05  
Definition: Date on which an admitted patient completes an episode of care.  
Context: Required to identify the period in which an admitted patient hospital stay or episode occurred and for derivation of length of stay.

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: DATE  
Representation layout: DDMMYYYY  
Minimum Size: 8  
Maximum Size: 8  
Data Domain: NOVAL Valid dates  
Verification Rules: For the provision of State and Territory hospital data to Commonwealth agencies this field must:  
- be <= last day of financial year  
- be >= first day of financial year  
- be >= Admission date  
Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Discharge date version 4 is used in the calculation of Length of stay (including leave days) version 1 is used in the calculation of Length of stay (postnatal) version 1

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## *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document:  
Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

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Comments: There may be variations amongst jurisdictions with respect to the recording of separation date. This most often occurs for patients who are statistically separated after a period of leave (and who do not return for further hospital care). In this case, some jurisdictions may record the separation date as the date of statistical separation (and record intervening days as leave days) while other jurisdictions may retrospectively separate patients on the first day of leave. Despite the variations in recording of separation date for this group of patients, the current practices provide for the accurate recording of length of stay.

### *Data Element Links*

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

NHIM    Exit / leave from service event

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

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| NMDS - Admitted patient care               | From 01-Jul-99 to |
| NMDS - Admitted patient mental health care | From 01-Jul-99 to |
| NMDS - Perinatal                           | From 01-Jul-99 to |
| NMDS - Admitted patient palliative care    | From 01-Jul-99 to |
| Draft DSS - CNMDSA for Community Nursing   | From 01-Jul-00 to |
| DSS - Acute coronary syndrome (clinical)   | From 04-Jun-04 to |

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