
Emergency department waiting time to service delivery

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: 000347 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DERIVED DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 30-JUN-03
Definition: The time elapsed for each patient from presentation to the emergency department to commencement of service by a treating medical officer or nurse.
Context: Emergency care:
This is a critical waiting times data item. This item is used to examine the length of waiting time, for performance indicators and benchmarking. Information based on this data item will have many uses including to assist management of emergency departments, the planning and management of hospitals and in health care related research.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE
Representation layout: HHMM
Minimum Size: 4
Maximum Size: 4
Data Domain: NOVAL Count in numbers of hours and minutes
Guide For Use: Calculated from date and time of service event minus date and time patient presents. Although triage category 1 is measured in seconds, it is recognised that the data will not be collected with this precision.

Waiting time may be zero if triage and treatment are coincident.

Collection Methods: To be collected on patients presenting to emergency department for

unplanned care in public hospitals with emergency department and private hospitals providing contracted services for the public sector.

Related metadata: is calculated using Date patient presents version 1
is calculated using Time patient presents version 1
is calculated using Date of service event version 1
is calculated using Time of service event version 1
has been superseded by Emergency department waiting time to service delivery version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

Comments: It is recognised that at times of extreme urgency or multiple synchronous presentations, or if no medical officer is on duty in the emergency department, this service may be provided by a nurse.

This data element supports the provision of unit record and/or summary level data by State and Territory health authorities as part of the NMDS - Emergency department waiting times.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Performance indicator

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

NMDS - Emergency department waiting times From 01-Jul-99 to 30-Jun-00
