

Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—clinical care commencement time, hhmm

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Emergency department clinical care commencement time
METEOR identifier:	471913
Registration status:	Health , Superseded 30/01/2012
Definition:	The time at which emergency department non-admitted clinical care commences, expressed as hhmm.
Context:	Emergency Department care
Data Element Concept:	Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—clinical care commencement time
Value Domain:	Time hhmm

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Time
Data type:	Date/Time
Format:	hhmm
Maximum character length:	4

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Reference documents:	ISO 8601:2000 : Data elements and interchange formats - Information interchange - Representation of dates and times

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Emergency department non-admitted clinical care can be commenced by a doctor, nurse, mental health practitioner or other health professional, when investigation, care and/or treatment is provided in accordance with an established clinical pathway defined by the emergency department. Placement of a patient in a cubicle and observations taken to monitor a patient pending a clinical decision regarding commencement of a clinical pathway, do not constitute commencement.
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Patients with an episode end status of 'Did not wait to be attended by a healthcare professional' should not have a clinical care commencement time, because by definition, they left before being attended by a health professional.

The following examples illustrate the commencement of emergency department non-admitted clinical care.

Example 1

- A patient presents at the emergency department with mild asthma. At triage, the patient is categorised as category three and returns to the waiting area.

- The patient has a more severe asthma attack in the waiting area, is re-triaged to category two and shown to a cubicle where standard observations are taken.
- A nurse comes to the cubicle and commences treatment based on an acknowledged clinical pathway of the emergency department. At this point: **emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Example 2

- A patient presents at the emergency department in an agitated, delusional state. At triage, the patient is categorised as category two and placed in a cubicle and the mental health practitioner notified.
- Observations are taken and nursing staff continue to observe the patient.
- The mental health practitioner arrives, assesses the patient and develops a management plan. At this point: **emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Example 3

- A patient presents at the emergency department with an ankle injury from football. At triage, the patient is categorised as category four and moved to the 'fast track area'.
- The physiotherapist attends, examines the patient, makes an assessment (including diagnostic imaging requirements) and determines a treatment plan. At this point: **emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Example 4

- A patient presents at the emergency department with a sore arm, following a fall, with limited arm movement possible.
- The patient is categorised as category three at triage and placed in a cubicle.
- A nurse provides analgesia and assesses the patient, including ordering diagnostic imaging. At this point: **emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Example 5

- **A patient presents at the emergency department feeling vague and having been generally unwell for a day or two. The patient has a slight cough. At triage, the patient is categorised as category three.**
- **The patient is placed in a cubicle where standard observations are taken. Respiration is 26 bpm, BP is 90/60 and the patient is hypoxic. The patient is given oxygen, and the treating clinician attends and provides instruction regarding patient care. At this point: emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Example 6

- **A patient presents at the emergency department with chest pain. Triage category two is allocated. The patient is placed in a cubicle and a nurse gives oxygen and Anginine, takes blood samples and conducts an ECG. The ECG is reviewed. At this point: emergency department clinical care has commenced.**
- **A doctor subsequently arrives and the patient is transferred to the catheter lab after examination.**

Example 7

- **The emergency department is notified by ambulance that a patient is being transported having severe behavioural problems.**
- **The patient is taken to an appropriate cubicle and restrained.**
- **A clinician administers sedation and requests the attendance of a mental health practitioner. At this point: emergency department clinical care has commenced.**

Collection methods:

Collected in conjunction with emergency department clinical care commencement date.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—clinical care commencement time, hhmm](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015
[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 27/05/2020

See also [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—service commencement time, hhmm](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 30/01/2012

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Non-admitted patient emergency department care DSS 1 January 2012-30 June 2012](#)
[Health](#), Retired 30/01/2012
Implementation start date: 01/01/2012
Implementation end date: 30/06/2012