

# Emergency department short stay unit

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# Emergency department short stay unit

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**Synonymous names:** ED short stay unit

**METEOR identifier:** 525112

**Registration status:** [Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

**Definition:** As per clause C48 of the National Health Reform Agreement - National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA IPHS), the Standing Council on Health, the Commonwealth and states and territories have agreed to implement the following definition of an emergency department (ED) short stay unit, or equivalent, with the following characteristics:

(a) designated and designed for the short term treatment, observation, assessment and reassessment of patients initially triaged and assessed in the ED;

(b) have specific admission and discharge criteria and policies;

(c) designed for short term stays no longer than 24 hours;

(d) physically separated from the ED acute assessment area;

(e) have a static number of beds with oxygen, suction and patient ablution facilities; and

(f) not a temporary ED overflow area nor used to keep patients solely awaiting an inpatient bed nor awaiting treatment in the ED.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** Clause C48(f) of the NPA IPHS uses the term 'inpatient', which refers to an [admitted patient](#), as defined in the National Health Data Dictionary.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee - Emergency Data Development Working Group

**Reference documents:** Standing Council on Federal Financial Relations, 2011. National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services, Schedule C. Standing Council on Federal Financial Relations, Canberra. Viewed 11 June 2013, [http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/npa/health\\_reform/national-workforce-reform/national\\_partnership.pdf](http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/npa/health_reform/national-workforce-reform/national_partnership.pdf)

## Relational attributes

**Metadata items which use  
this glossary item:**

[Emergency department short stay unit departure destination](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Emergency department short stay unit departure destination code N](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Episode of admitted patient care—emergency department short stay unit departure destination](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Episode of admitted patient care—emergency department short stay unit departure destination, code N](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Episode of admitted patient care—length of stay in emergency department short stay unit](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Episode of admitted patient care—length of stay in emergency department short stay unit, total minutes NNNNN](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[Length of stay in emergency department short stay unit](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services: Length of stay in emergency department short stay units less than or equal to 24 hours](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014

[National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services: Proportion of patients discharged from emergency department short stay units](#)

[Health](#), Standard 04/09/2014