

# Readiness for surgery code N

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# Readiness for surgery code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Value Domain
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Readiness for care
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	598037
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 19/11/2015
<b>Definition:</b>	A code set representing readiness for surgery.

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1

	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Permissible values:</b>	1	Ready for surgery
	2	Not ready for surgery – staged patients
	3	Not ready for surgery – pending improvement of clinical condition
	4	Not ready for surgery – deferred for personal reasons

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:****CODE 1 Ready for surgery**

Patients who are prepared to be admitted to hospital or to begin the process leading directly to admission for surgery.

The process leading to surgery could include investigations/procedures done on an outpatient basis, such as autologous blood collection, pre-operative diagnostic imaging or blood tests.

**CODE 2 Not ready for surgery – staged patients**

Patients who have undergone a procedure or other treatment and are waiting for follow-up elective surgery, where the patient is not in a position to be admitted to hospital or to begin the process leading directly to admission for surgery, because the patient's clinical condition means that the surgery is not indicated until some future, planned period of time.

Examples include a patient who has had internal fixation of a fracture who will require removal of the fixation device after 3 months, a patient who requires a 'check' cystoscopy to check for cancer 12 months after surgery to remove a tumour in the bladder, and a patient requiring rectal cancer surgery 6-8 weeks after neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy for colorectal cancer.

**CODE 3 Not ready for surgery – pending improvement of clinical condition**

Patients for whom surgery is indicated, but not until their clinical condition is improved, for example, as a result of a clinical intervention.

Examples include patients who require a cardiac work-up before a total hip replacement and patients with respiratory insufficiency who require physiotherapy to maximise respiratory function before a hernia repair.

For such patients, a decision has already been made that surgery should take place. Patients should not be regarded as 'not ready for surgery—pending improvement of their clinical condition' when they are undergoing routine monitoring or investigations before a decision is made as to whether surgery is required.

**CODE 4 Not ready for surgery – deferred for personal reasons**

Patients who for personal reasons are not yet prepared to be admitted to hospital. Examples include patients with work or other commitments that preclude their being admitted to hospital for a time.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee - Emergency Data Development Working Group; Hospitals Principal Committee - Project Steering Committee on National Definitions for Elective Surgery Urgency Categories

**Reference documents:** AIHW 2013. National definitions for elective surgery urgency categories: proposal for the Standing Council on Health. Cat. no. HSE 138. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 30 July 2015, <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129543979>

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Readiness for care code N Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015

**Data elements  
implementing this value  
domain:**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for surgery code N](#)

[Health](#), Standard 05/02/2021

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 28/03/2023

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for surgery code N](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for surgery code N](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021