

Acute coronary syndrome (Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard)

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary item

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Registration status: [Health](#), Standard 12/09/2016

Definition: For the purposes of the Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard (ACSQHC 2014), an acute coronary syndrome results from a sudden blockage of a blood vessel in the heart, typically by a blood clot (thrombosis) that reduces blood supply to a portion of heart muscle. Where the blockage is severe enough to lead to injury or death of the heart muscle, the event is called an acute myocardial infarction (or 'heart attack'). Depending on the duration of the ischaemia and the extent of damage to the heart muscle, the myocardial infarction can be:

- non-ST-segment-elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) (also known as [non-ST-segment-elevation acute coronary syndrome \(NSTEMACS\)](#)).
- [ST-segment-elevation myocardial infarction \(STEMI\)](#).

Acute coronary syndromes also include unstable angina (chest pain usually due to restricted blood flow to the heart muscles), which can lead to a heart attack. The most common cause of an acute coronary syndrome is atherosclerosis (or 'coronary heart disease') where an artery wall thickens due to a build-up of fatty materials such as cholesterol.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: For the purposes of the Clinical care standard indicators: acute coronary syndromes, it includes patients where:

- [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) = 1 Acute care and
- [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code \(ICD-10-AM 9th edn\) ANN{N\[N\]}](#) or [Episode of care—additional diagnosis, code \(ICD-10-AM 9th edn\) ANN{N\[N\]}](#) is of one of the following:
 - I20.0 Unstable angina
 - I21.0 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of anterior wall (STEMI)
 - I21.1 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of inferior wall (STEMI)
 - I21.2 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of other sites (STEMI)
 - I21.3 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of unspecified site (STEMI)
 - I21.4 Acute subendocardial myocardial infarction (Non-ST elevation myocardial infarction [NSTEMI])
 - I21.9 Acute myocardial infarction, unspecified.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

Reference documents: ACSQHC (Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care) 2014. Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard. Sydney: ACSQHC.

Relational attributes

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

[Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard indicators: 6g-Proportion of patients with acute coronary syndrome whose discharge summary was provided to their general practitioner or ongoing clinical provider within 48 hours of separation from hospital](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Qualified](#)
17/09/2019

[Acute coronary syndromes: 1a-Patients whose care is guided by a documented chest pain assessment pathway](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 2c-ECG performed within 10 minutes of arrival to the emergency department](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 6a-ACS patients with an individualised care plan](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 6b-Patients discharged on aspirin or dual antiplatelet therapy](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 6c-Patients discharged on lipid-lowering therapy](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 6d-Patients referred to cardiac rehabilitation or other secondary prevention program](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Acute coronary syndromes: 6e-Discharge summary provided to general practitioner or ongoing clinical provider within 48 hours of separation from hospital](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Clinical care standard indicators: acute coronary syndromes](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Early assessment](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Immediate management](#)

[Health, Recorded 24/03/2016](#)

[Individualised care plan](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[Non-ST-segment-elevation acute coronary syndrome \(NSTEMI\) \(Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard\)](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)

[ST-segment-elevation myocardial infarction \(STEMI\) \(Acute coronary syndromes clinical care standard\)](#)

[Health, Standard 12/09/2016](#)