Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N

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# Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Triage category |
| METEOR identifier: | 684872 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 20/10/2021 |
| Definition: | The urgency of a non-admitted patient's need for medical and/or nursing care in an emergency department, as assessed at [**triage**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/677623), as represented by a code. |
| Context: | Emergency department care. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/684869) |
| Value Domain: | [Triage category code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/651988) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N | |
| Maximum character length: | 1 | |
|  | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Permissible values: | 1 | Resuscitation: immediate (within seconds) |
|  | 2 | Emergency: within 10 minutes |
|  | 3 | Urgent: within 30 minutes |
|  | 4 | Semi-urgent: within 60 minutes |
|  | 5 | Non-urgent: within 120 minutes |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Independent Hospital Pricing Authority |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Collection methods: | This triage classification is to be used in the emergency departments of hospitals. Patients will be triaged into one of five categories on the Australasian Triage Scale according to the triageur's response to the question: 'This patient should wait for medical care no longer than ...?'.  The triage category is allocated by an experienced [**registered nurse**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/327182) or medical practitioner. If the triage category changes, both triage categories can be captured, but the original category must be reported in this data element.  A triage category should not be assigned for patients who have a Type of visit of 'Dead on arrival, emergency department clinician certified the death of the patient'. |
| Comments: | Required to provide data for analysis of emergency department processes. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Origin: | Australasian Triage Scale, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine |
| Reference documents: | Australasian College for Emergency Medicine 2013. Policy on the Australasian Triage Scale (P06). Melbourne: Australasian College for Emergency Medicine. Viewed 5 August 2016, <https://acem.org.au/getmedia/484b39f1-7c99-427b-b46e-005b0cd6ac64/P06-Policy-on-the-ATS-Jul-13-v04.aspx>  Australasian College for Emergency Medicine 2016. Guidelines on the implementation of the Australasian Triage Scale in Emergency Department (G24). Melbourne: Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Viewed 20 September 2016, <https://acem.org.au/getmedia/51dc74f7-9ff0-42ce-872a-0437f3db640a/G24_04_Guidelines_on_Implementation_of_ATS_Jul-16.aspx> |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/646659)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 25/01/2018  Has been superseded by [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/746627)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 20/10/2021  See also [Emergency service stay—triage category, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/722006)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 20/10/2021  See also [Emergency service stay—triage category, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/679153)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 18/12/2019 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NBEDS 2018-19](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/676384)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 12/12/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following *Type of visit to emergency department* permissible values recorded:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission   [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NBEDS 2019–20](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/708556)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Retired 19/11/2019  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2019 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2020 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following *Type of visit to emergency department* permissible values recorded:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission   [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2018-19](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/679018)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 12/12/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following Type of visit values recorded:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission   [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2019–20](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/699738)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 18/12/2019  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2019 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2020 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following Type of visit values recorded:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission   [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2020–21](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/713860)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 05/02/2021  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2020 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2021 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is required to be reported if the value for[Emergency department stay—type of visit to emergency department, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/684942) is recorded as:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission   [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2021–22](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/727360)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 20/10/2021  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2021 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2022 ***Conditional obligation:***  This data item is required to be reported if the value for[Emergency department stay—type of visit to emergency department, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/684942) is recorded as:   * Code 1 - Emergency presentation * Code 2 - Return visit, planned * Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission |
| Implementation in Indicators: | **Used as Numerator** [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715380)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715380)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728367)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728367)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724051)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724051)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728369)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728369)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716537)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716537)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/725791)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/09/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/725791)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/09/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2022](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/740847)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 24/09/2021  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716686)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716686)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: proportion seen on time, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/725785)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/09/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: proportion seen on time, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/725785)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/09/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: proportion seen on time, 2022](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/740840)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 24/09/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715380)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715380)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728367)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728367)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724051)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724051)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728369)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728369)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.7–Waiting times for emergency department care: percentage of patients whose length of emergency department stay is 4 hours or less, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715382)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.7–Waiting times for emergency department care: percentage of patients whose length of emergency department stay is 4 hours or less, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/715382)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.7–Waiting times for emergency department care: percentage of patients whose length of emergency department stay is 4 hours or less, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728373)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.7–Waiting times for emergency department care: percentage of patients whose length of emergency department stay is 4 hours or less, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728373)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.8–Waiting times for emergency department care: time spent in the emergency department, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716197)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.8–Waiting times for emergency department care: time spent in the emergency department, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716197)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.8–Waiting times for emergency department care: time spent in the emergency department, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728375)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.8–Waiting times for emergency department care: time spent in the emergency department, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/728375)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/10/2021  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716537)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/716537)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/725791)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/09/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type 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