Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Clinical urgency
METEOR identifier:	732423
Registration status:	Health, Standard 05/02/2021
Definition:	A clinical assessment of the urgency with which a patient requires **elective surgery**, as represented by a code.

Data element concept attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data element concept:	Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency
METEOR identifier:	598030
Registration status:	Health, Standard 12/06/2015 Tasmanian Health, Standard 01/12/2016
Definition:	A clinical assessment of the urgency with which a patient requires **elective surgery**.
Context:	Elective surgery: Categorisation of waiting list patients by clinical urgency assists hospital management and clinicians in the prioritisation of their workloads. It gives health consumers a reasonable estimate of the maximum time they should expect to wait for care. Clinical urgency classification allows a meaningful measure of system performance to be calculated, namely the number or proportion of patients who wait for times in excess of the maximum desirable time limit for their urgency category (metadata item the overdue patient status).
Object class:	Elective surgery waiting list episode
Property:	Clinical urgency

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee
Reference documents:	AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 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

Value domain attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Value domain:	Clinical urgency code N
METEOR identifier:	598026
Registration status:	Health, Standard 12/06/2015
Definition:	A code set representing the clinical assessment of the urgency with which a patient requires a procedure.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N	
Maximum character length:	1	
	Value	**Meaning**
Permissible values:	1	Procedures that are clinically indicated within 30 days
	2	Procedures that are clinically indicated within 90 days
	3	Procedures that are clinically indicated within 365 days

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee

Reference documents: AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 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

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Patients who require an elective procedure should be assigned an urgency category by the treating clinician. The urgency category should be:

- appropriate to the patient and their clinical situation
- not influenced by the availability of hospital or surgeon resources.

Comments: The treating clinician is the clinician with responsibility for the patient at the time of urgency categorisation.

The clinical situation of the patient is taken to encompass the patient's medical condition and the patient's life circumstances, including issues related to activity limitations, restrictions in participation in employment and other life situations, carer responsibilities and access to carer and other supports.

A patient's classification may change if he or she undergoes **clinical review** during the waiting period. The need for clinical review varies with the patient's condition and is therefore at the discretion of the treating clinician. The waiting list information system should be able to record dates when the classification is changed (metadata item Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY).

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2013. National definitions for elective surgery urgency categories: proposal for the Standing Council on Health. Cat. no. HSE 138. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 24 August 2020, http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129543979

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N
Health, Superseded 05/02/2021

See also Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY
Health, Standard 05/02/2021
Tasmanian Health, Standard 28/03/2023

See also Elective surgery waiting list episode—overdue patient status, code N
Health, Standard 05/02/2021
Tasmanian Health, Standard 28/03/2023

See also Elective surgery waiting list episode—overdue patient status, code N
Health, Superseded 05/02/2021
Tasmanian Health, Superseded 28/03/2023

See also Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at a census date, total days N[NNN]
Health, Standard 05/02/2021
Tasmanian Health, Standard 28/03/2023

See also Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at a census date, total days N[NNN]
Health, Superseded 05/02/2021
Tasmanian Health, Superseded 28/03/2023

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

Elective surgery waiting times cluster
Health, Superseded 20/10/2022

Elective surgery waiting times cluster
Health, Standard 20/10/2022

Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2021–22
Health, Superseded 17/12/2021
Implementation start date: 01/07/2021
Implementation end date: 30/06/2022

Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2022–23
Health, Superseded 09/12/2022
Implementation start date: 01/07/2022
Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2023–24
Health, Superseded 06/12/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2023
Implementation end date: 30/06/2024

Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2024–25
Health, Standard 06/12/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2024
Implementation end date: 30/06/2025