KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17aJ – Involuntary hospital treatment, 2021

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	MHS PI 17aJ: Involuntary hospital treatment, 2021
METEOR identifier:	739902
Registration status:	• Health, Standard 17/12/2021
Description:	The percentage of separations with specialised mental health care days where the consumer has a mental health legal status of 'involuntary'.
Rationale:	• Every jurisdiction in Australia has legislation to enable people with mental illness to be treated involuntarily under certain conditions. This means treatment for mental illness, including medication, restraint, seclusion and therapeutic interventions, can be provided without the individual's consent, either in hospital or in the community. • Monitoring the proportion of involuntary treatment is an important step in understanding the use of restrictive practices in Australian public hospitals.
Indicator set:	Key Performance Indicators for Australian Public Mental Health Services (Jurisdictional level version) (2021) Health, Standard 17/12/2021

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:	Coverage/Scope: State/territory public admitted patient mental health service units. Only public hospitals are in scope for this indicator. Methodology: • Reference period for 2021 performance reporting: 2019–20. • Patient days are for all separations that ended within the reference period. • Mental health legal status is defined for this indicator as: 'Whether a person is treated on an involuntary basis under the relevant state or territory mental health legislation'. • Involuntary patients are persons who are compulsorily treated in hospital or in the community under relevant state and territory legislation for the purpose of assessment or provision of appropriate treatment or care. All types of treatment orders are in scope for this indicator, regardless of the setting of the treatment order. For example, admitted patients who are under a community treatment order are in scope for the numerator of this indicator. Presented as a: • percentage • number.
Computation:	Number (Numerator ÷ Denominator) x 100
Numerator:	Number of separations in public hospitals occurring within the reference period with specialised mental health care days that are involuntary.

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Specialised mental health service—number of separations in public hospitals with specialised mental health care days that are involuntary

Data Source

[State/territory admitted patient data](#)

Guide for use

Number of psychiatric care days greater than 0.

This data element is used to identify episodes of care where specialised mental health care have been received.

Denominator: Total number of separations with specialised mental health care days in public hospitals occurring within the reference period

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Specialised mental health service—number of separations in public hospitals

Data Source

[State/territory admitted patient data](#)

Guide for use

Number of psychiatric care days greater than 0.

This data element is used to identify episodes of care where specialised mental health care have been received.

Disaggregation: Service variables: acute/non-acute units, and target population.

Consumer attributes: age, sex, and Indigenous status.

Disaggregated data excludes missing or not reported data.

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Admitted mental health service—admitted patient care program type

Data Source

State/territory admitted patient data 2019–20

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Admitted mental health service—target population

Data Source

State/territory admitted patient data 2019–20

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Target population refers to the target population of the service unit.

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Person—age

Data Source

State/territory admitted patient data 2019–20

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Person—Indigenous status

Data Source

State/territory admitted patient data 2019–20

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Person—sex

Data Source

State/territory admitted patient data 2019–20

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Comments:	Most recent data available for reporting: 2019–20. This indicator refers to the inpatient setting only.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Percentage
Data type:	Real
Unit of measure:	Episode
Format:	N[NN.NN]

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions:	[Safety](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:	**Data Source**
	[State/territory admitted patient data](#)
	Frequency
	Annual
	Data custodian
	State/territory health authorities

Accountability attributes

Organisation responsible for providing data:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Other issues caveats:	The use of involuntary treatment is governed by either legislation (a Mental Health Act or equivalent) or mandatory policy within each state and territory. The definitions used within the legislation and policies vary between jurisdictions including, but not limited to, forensic-related legislation that applies to admitted patient mental health services. These variations should be recognised in the interpretation of the indicator.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare on behalf of the National Mental Health Performance Subcommittee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Has been superseded by [KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17aJ – Involuntary hospital treatment, 2022](#)
	• [Health](#), Recorded 06/04/2022
	See also [KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17bJ – Involuntary patient days, 2021](#)
	• [Health](#), Standard 17/12/2021