

Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end status, 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.

Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end status, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Episode end status
Synonymous names:	Departure status
METEOR identifier:	746709
Registration status:	Health , Standard 20/10/2021
Definition:	The status of the patient at the end of the non-admitted patient emergency department service episode, as represented by a code.
Context:	Emergency department care.
Data Element Concept:	Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end status
Value Domain:	Emergency department non-admitted patient service episode end status code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Transferred for admitted patient care in this hospital (either short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit)
	2	Emergency department stay completed - departed without being transferred to a short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit in this hospital or referred to another hospital
	3	Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode completed - referred to another hospital for admission
	4	Did not wait to be attended by a health care professional
	5	Left at own risk after being attended by a health care professional but before the non-admitted patient emergency department service episode was completed
	6	Died in emergency department
	7	Dead on arrival
	8	Registered, advised of another health care service, and left the emergency department without being attended by a health care professional

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	CODE 1 Transferred for admitted patient care in this hospital (either short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit)
-----------------------	--

This code should only be used for patients who physically depart the emergency department because they are admitted to a short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit.

Patients for whom the intention is to admit to a short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit, but who die or otherwise leave the emergency department should not be recorded as Code 1.

This code excludes patients who died in the emergency department. Such instances should be coded to Code 6.

CODE 2 Emergency department stay completed - departed without being transferred to a short stay unit, hospital-in-the-home or other admitted patient care unit in this hospital or referred to another hospital

This code includes patients who either departed under their own care, under police custody, under the care of a residential aged care facility or under the care of another carer.

This code excludes those who died in the emergency department as a non-admitted patient. Such instances should be coded to Code 6.

CODE 4 Did not wait to be attended by a health care professional

This code excludes patients who are advised of other health care services that could attend to their condition, and who leave the emergency department with the intention of attending another health care service. These patients should be coded to Code 8.

CODE 6 Died in emergency department

This code should only be used for patients who die while physically located within the emergency department.

CODE 7 Dead on arrival

This code should only be used for patients who are dead on arrival and an emergency department clinician certifies the death of the patient. This includes where the clinician certifies the death outside the emergency department (e.g. in an ambulance outside the emergency department).

Exclusion: When resuscitation or any other clinical care for the patient is attempted, Code 7 should not be used.

Note: Where Code 7 is recorded for a patient, an [Emergency department stay—type of visit to emergency department](#), Code 5 (Dead on arrival) should also be recorded.

CODE 8 Registered, advised of another health care service, and left the emergency department without being attended to by a health care professional

Patients should be coded to Code 8 if they meet all of the criteria (that is, they undergo a clerical registration process, are provided with advice about another health care service that could provide assessment and/or treatment of their condition, and leave the emergency department without receiving clinical care). However, patients should only be coded to Code 8 if, at the time of their departure, they provided a reasonable indication that they did intend to seek assistance from another health care service including the service to which they were referred.

They may leave the emergency department immediately after being advised of the other health care service, or may leave after a period of time.

If it is unclear whether the person intended to seek further treatment from another health care service, they should be coded to Code 4.

The health care service to which the patient is referred may include primary care/general practitioner (GP) clinics, other clinics that provide specialised treatment (e.g. for mental health care or drug and alcohol care), or other health services (such as the patient's usual general practitioner). The service may be co-located with the hospital in which the emergency department is located, or may be a separate facility.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: When recording the episode end status of a patient, Codes 6 and 7 should first be considered for use. If Codes 6 and 7 are inappropriate, select the most suitable code for the patient from Codes 1-5 and Code 8.

Collection methods: Some data systems may refer to this data element as 'Departure status'.

Comments: Code 8 has been included as a permissible value to capture situations where a person may have been diverted from the emergency department to another health care service. Inclusion of this code ensures consistency of reporting, and ensures that these patients are distinguished from patients who did not wait to be attended by a health care professional and for whom it is unknown if they sought any other treatment for their condition.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end status, code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 20/10/2021

See also [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end date, DDMMYYYY](#)
[Health](#), Standard 20/10/2021
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 22/03/2023

See also [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—episode end time, hhmm](#)
[Health](#), Standard 20/10/2021
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 22/03/2023

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2022–23](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 07/02/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2022
Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2023–24](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2023
Implementation end date: 30/06/2024

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2024–25](#)
[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2024
Implementation end date: 30/06/2025

Implementation in Indicators:

Used as Numerator

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2024](#)

Health, Qualified 02/07/2024

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.6–Waiting times for emergency department care: waiting times to commencement of clinical care, 2024](#)

Health, Qualified 02/07/2024

Used as Disaggregation

[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, 2024](#)

Health, Qualified 02/07/2024

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.8–Waiting times for emergency department care: time spent in the emergency department, 2024](#)

Health, Qualified 02/07/2024

Used as Denominator

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.5–Waiting times for emergency department care: proportion seen on time, 2024](#)

Health, Qualified 02/07/2024