

Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 273057

Registration status: [HealthI](#), Superseded 07/12/2005

DSS type: National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

Scope: The scope of this minimum data set is patients removed from waiting lists for elective surgery (as defined in the Waiting list category data element) which are managed by public acute hospitals. This will include private patients treated in public hospitals, and may include public patients treated in private hospitals. Hospitals may also collect information for other care (as defined in the Waiting list category data element), but this is not part of the National Minimum Data Set (NMDS) for elective surgery waiting times.

Patients removed from waiting lists managed by hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and Australia's external territories are not currently included.

Removals data:

Data are collected for patients who have been removed from an elective surgery waiting list (for admission or another reason). Patients who were 'ready for care' and patients who were 'not ready for care' at the time of removal are included.

Collection and usage attributes

Statistical unit: Patients removed from waiting lists (for admission or other reason) during each financial year.

Collection methods: Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY is not required for reporting to the NMDS, but is necessary for the derivation of Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time (at a census date), total days N[NNN]. Elective care waiting list episode—elective care type, code N and Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for care code N are not required for reporting to the NMDS, but are necessary for determining whether patients are in scope for the NMDS. These data elements should be collected at the local level and reported to state and territory health authorities as required.

National reporting arrangements

State and territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated

Financial years ending 30 June each year for removals data.

Implementation start date: 01/07/2002

Implementation end date: 30/06/2006

Comments: There are two different types of data collected for this national minimum data set (census data and removals data) and the scope and list of data elements associated with each is different.

For the purposes of this NMDS, public hospitals include hospitals which are set up to provide services for public patients (as public hospitals do), but which are managed privately.


The inclusion of public patients removed from elective surgery waiting lists managed by private hospitals will be investigated in the future.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Health Information Group

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2006-09](#)
[Health!](#), Superseded 03/12/2008

Is re-engineered from  [Elective surgery waiting times, NMDS, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (125.1 KB)
No registration status

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Elective care waiting list episode—listing date for care, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—extended wait patient indicator, code N	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—indicator procedure, code NN	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—overdue patient status, code N	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—reason for removal from a waiting list, code N	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—surgical specialty (of scheduled doctor), code NN	Mandatory	1
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting list removal date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
	<i>DSS specific information:</i>		
	Right justified and zero filled		
	Removal date ≥ date of birth		
	Removal date ≤ listing date for care		
-	Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time (at removal), total days N[NNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Establishment—organisation identifier (Australian), NNX[X]NNNNN	Mandatory	1