
Discharge date

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000043 Version number: 3
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 30-JUN-97
Definition: Date on which an admitted patient completes an episode of care by one of the following processes:

'Formal separation' is the administrative process by which a hospital records the completion of treatment and/or care and accommodation of a patient (discharge, transfer, death).

'Statistical separation' is the administrative process by which a hospital (excluding nursing homes) records the completion of treatment and/or care and accommodation following:

- leave of absence (any type, including leave for special care and unauthorised leave) which exceeds seven consecutive days for admitted patients; or
- transfer to another in-patient institution, if the patient does not return to the original institution within seven consecutive days; or
- type change or transfer between episodes of care (see data elements Type of episode of care and Admission date) within the one hospital stay.

Context: Institutional health care: required to identify the period in which an admitted patient hospital stay or episode occurred and for derivation of length of stay.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: DATE
DDMMYYYY

Representation 8
layout: 8

Minimum Size:

Maximum Size:

Data Domain: NOVAL Valid dates

Verification Rules:DD and MM right justified and zero filled.

Discharge date must be >= admission date.

Related metadata: is used in the calculation of Length of stay version 1
supersedes previous data element Discharge date version 2
is used in the derivation of Diagnosis related group version 1
is used in the derivation of Separations version 2
has been superseded by Discharge date version 4

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

Comments: This data element was modified to clarify the distinction between statistical separation occurring due to leave from those due to type change. See the definition of Separation developed by the Patient Abstracting and Coding Project, Casemix Branch, Commonwealth Department of Health, Housing and Community Services. This data element was further modified from July 1996 to remove the difference between psychiatric and other patients, at the instigation of the National Mental Health Information Strategy Committee.

For discussion of episodes of care, type change and statistical separation, refer to data elements Type of episode of care, Admission date, Total leave days and Number of leave periods. It is important to note the decision not to record leave periods at the resident level, hence the exclusion of nursing homes from recording statistical separations (from leave or type change).

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Exit / leave from service event

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

NMDS - Admitted patient care From 01-Jul-96 to 30-Jun-97
