
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: 4
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 30-JUN-99

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 admitted 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
Representation layout: DDMMCCYY
Minimum Size: 8

Maximum Size: 8

Data Domain: NOVAL Valid dates

Guide For Use: In perinatal collections the discharge date provided is to be the date of formal separation.

Verification Rules: For the provision of State and Territory hospital data to Commonwealth agencies this field must:

- be <= last day of financial year
- be >= first day of financial year
- be >= Admission date

Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Discharge date version 3 has been superseded by Separation date version 5

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. It 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.

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-97 to 30-Jun-99
NMDS - Admitted patient mental health care	From 01-Jul-97 to 30-Jun-99
NMDS - Perinatal	From 01-Jul-97 to 30-Jun-99
