

# Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N

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# Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Triage category
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	646659
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health!</a> , Superseded 25/01/2018
<b>Definition:</b>	The urgency of the patient's need for medical and nursing care as assessed at <a href="#">triage</a> , as represented by a code.
<b>Context:</b>	Emergency department care.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Triage category code N</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1

	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Permissible values:</b>	1	Resuscitation: immediate (within seconds)
	2	Emergency: within 10 minutes
	3	Urgent: within 30 minutes
	4	Semi-urgent: within 60 minutes
	5	Non-urgent: within 120 minutes

## Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

**Collection methods:** This triage classification is to be used in the emergency departments of hospitals. Patients will be triaged into one of five categories on the Australasian Triage Scale according to the triageur's response to the question: 'This patient should wait for medical care no longer than ...?'.  
  
The triage category is allocated by an experienced [registered nurse](#) or medical practitioner. If the triage category changes, both triage categories can be captured, but the original category must be reported in this data element.

A triage category should not be assigned for patients who have a Type of visit of 'Dead on arrival, emergency department clinician certified the death of the patient'.

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** Australasian Triage Scale, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine

**Reference documents:** Australasian College for Emergency Medicine 2013. Policy on the Australasian Triage Scale (P06). Melbourne: Australasian College for Emergency Medicine. Viewed 5 August 2016, <http://acem.org.au/getattachment/693998d7-94be-4ca7-a0e7-3d74cc9b733f/Policy-on-the-Australasian-Triage-Scale.aspx>

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine 2016. Guidelines on the implementation of the Australasian Triage Scale in Emergency Department (G24). Melbourne: Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Viewed 20 September 2016, <http://acem.org.au/getattachment/4320524e-ad60-4e7c-a96d-bdf90cd7966c/G24-Implementation-of-the-Australasian-Triage-Scale.aspx>

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 05/10/2016  
[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 31/10/2012  
[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

Has been superseded by [Non-admitted patient emergency department service episode—triage category, code N](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 20/10/2021

See also [Emergency service stay—triage category, code N](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Non-admitted patient emergency department care NBEDS 2017-18](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2017  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2018  
**Conditional obligation:**

This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following *Type of visit to emergency department* permissible values recorded:

- Code 1 - Emergency presentation
- Code 2 - Return visit, planned
- Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2017-18](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 25/01/2018  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2017  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2018  
**Conditional obligation:**

This data item is to be recorded for patients who have one of the following *Type of visit* values recorded:

- Code 1 - Emergency presentation;
- Code 2 - Return visit, planned;
- Code 3 - Pre-arranged admission;
- Code 4 - Patient in transit.

**Implementation in Indicators:**

**Used as Numerator**

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: Proportion seen on time, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: Proportion seen on time, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

**Used as Disaggregation**

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 19–Selected potentially avoidable GP-type presentations to emergency departments, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: Proportion seen on time, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 21a–Waiting times for emergency hospital care: Proportion seen on time, 2019](#)

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