

Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for surgery code N

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Patient listing status
METEOR identifier:	732435
Registration status:	HealthI , Standard 05/02/2021
Definition:	An indicator of the person's readiness to begin the process leading directly to being admitted to hospital for an awaited procedure, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status
Value Domain:	Readiness for surgery code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

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

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Ready for surgery
	2	Not ready for surgery – staged patients
	3	Not ready for surgery – pending improvement of clinical condition
	4	Not ready for surgery – deferred for personal reasons

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:**CODE 1 Ready for surgery**

Patients who are prepared to be admitted to hospital or to begin the process leading directly to admission for surgery.

The process leading to surgery could include investigations/procedures done on an outpatient basis, such as autologous blood collection, pre-operative diagnostic imaging or blood tests.

CODE 2 Not ready for surgery – staged patients

Patients who have undergone a procedure or other treatment and are waiting for follow-up elective surgery, where the patient is not in a position to be admitted to hospital or to begin the process leading directly to admission for surgery, because the patient's clinical condition means that the surgery is not indicated until some future, planned period of time.

Examples include a patient who has had internal fixation of a fracture who will require removal of the fixation device after 3 months, a patient who requires a 'check' cystoscopy to check for cancer 12 months after surgery to remove a tumour in the bladder, and a patient requiring rectal cancer surgery 6-8 weeks after neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy for colorectal cancer.

CODE 3 Not ready for surgery – pending improvement of clinical condition

Patients for whom surgery is indicated, but not until their clinical condition is improved, for example, as a result of a clinical intervention.

Examples include patients who require a cardiac work-up before a total hip replacement and patients with respiratory insufficiency who require physiotherapy to maximise respiratory function before a hernia repair.

For such patients, a decision has already been made that surgery should take place. Patients should not be regarded as 'not ready for surgery—pending improvement of their clinical condition' when they are undergoing routine monitoring or investigations before a decision is made as to whether surgery is required.

CODE 4 Not ready for surgery – deferred for personal reasons

Patients who for personal reasons are not yet prepared to be admitted to hospital. Examples include patients with work or other commitments that preclude their being admitted to hospital for a time.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee - Emergency Data Development Working Group; Hospitals Principal Committee - Project Steering Committee on National Definitions for Elective Surgery Urgency Categories

Reference documents: AIHW 2013. National definitions for elective surgery urgency categories: proposal for the Standing Council on Health. Cat. no. HSE 138. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 30 July 2015, <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129543979>

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Patients should only be added to waiting lists (that is, regarded as 'ready for surgery' for the purpose of monitoring waiting times, and for the purpose of allocation of a surgery date) when they are personally and clinically ready for surgery.

Patients deferred for personal reasons should not be added to the waiting lists until they are ready for surgery. They should be suspended from the waiting list if they defer after being ready for surgery.

Details of how and when patients move between 'ready for surgery' categories are not needed for national or local reporting of the data. Periods when patients are not ready for surgery should be excluded in determining [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at removal, total days N\[NNN\]](#) and [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at a census date, total days N\[NNN\]](#).

Comments: The dates when a patient listing status changes need to be recorded. A patient's classification may change if he or she is examined by a clinician during the waiting period, i.e. undergoes [clinical review](#). The need for clinical review varies with the patient's condition and is therefore at the discretion of the treating clinician. The waiting list information system should be able to record dates when the classification is changed using the [Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY](#).

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Elective surgery waiting list episode—patient listing status, readiness for surgery code N](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

Is used in the formation of [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at removal, total days N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 05/02/2021

See also [Elective care waiting list episode—category reassignment date, DDMMYYYY](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 05/02/2021

See also [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at a census date, total days N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 05/02/2021

See also [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time at removal, total days N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 05/02/2021

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2021–22](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2021

Implementation end date: 30/06/2022

Conditional obligation:

Only for patients on an elective surgery waiting list at time of census.

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2022–23](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 17/12/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2022

Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

Conditional obligation:

Only for patients on an elective surgery waiting list at time of census.