

Appendix E

New and revised NMDS data elements and data concepts for 1 July 2001

New data elements and data concepts for the NMDS—alcohol and other drug treatment services agreed for inclusion from 1 July 2001 are presented below. Note that the data element *Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs*, and the data element concept *Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and drugs* are also included as slight revisions have been made to these as a matter of consistency. Attached are copies of the proposed entries to be included in the *National Health Data Dictionary Version 10*.

Data elements

- Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs
- Other treatment type for alcohol and other drugs
- Number of service contacts within a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs

Supporting data element concepts

- Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs
- Service contact
- Treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000424 **Version number:** 2

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: Date on which a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs ceases.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Required to identify the cessation of a treatment episode by an alcohol and other drug treatment service.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** DATE

Field size: **Min.** 8 **Max.** 8 **Representational**
layout: DDMMYYYY

Data domain: Valid dates

Guide for use: Refers to the date of the last service contact in a treatment episode between the client and staff of the treatment provider. In situations where the client has had no contact with the treatment provider for three months, nor is there a plan in place for further contact, the date of last service contact should be used.

Refer to data element concept Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs to determine when a treatment episode ceases.

Verification rules: Must be later than or the same as the Date of commencement of treatment for alcohol and other drugs.

Collection methods:

Related data: Relates to the data element Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Relates to the data element concept Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000430 **Version number:** 2

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: Date on which a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs commences.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Required to identify the commencement of a treatment episode by an alcohol and other drug treatment service.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** DATE

Field size: **Min.** 8 **Max.** 8 **Representational layout:** DDMMYYYY

Data domain: Valid dates

Guide for use: The first date of the treatment episode is the first service contact within the treatment episode when assessment and/or treatment occurs.

Verification rules: Must be earlier than or the same as the Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs.

Collection methods:

Related data: Relates to the data element concept Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: **Version number:** 1

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: The main activity determined at assessment by the treatment provider to treat the client's alcohol and/or drug problem for the Principal drug of concern.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Information about treatment provided is of fundamental importance to service delivery and planning.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** CODE

Field size: **Min** 1 **Max.** 1 **Representational layout:** N

Data domain:

- 1 Withdrawal management (detoxification)
- 2 Counselling
- 3 Rehabilitation
- 4 Pharmacotherapy
- 5 Support and case management only
- 6 Information and education only
- 7 Assessment only
- 8 Other

Guide for use: To be completed at assessment or commencement of treatment. The main treatment type is the principal activity as judged by the treatment provider that is necessary for the completion of the treatment plan for the principal drug of concern. The main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs is the principal focus of a single treatment episode. Consequently, each treatment episode will only have one main treatment type.

For brief interventions, the main treatment type may apply to as few as one contact between the client and agency staff.

Code 1 refers to any form of withdrawal management, including medicated and non-medicated, in any delivery setting.

Code 2 refers to any method of individual or group counselling directed towards identified problems with alcohol and/or other drug use or dependency. This code excludes counselling activity that is part of a rehabilitation program as defined in code 3.

Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs (continued)

Guide for use:
(continued)

Code 3 refers to an intensive treatment program that integrates a range of services and therapeutic activities that may include behavioural treatment approaches, recreational activities, social and community living skills, group work and relapse prevention. Rehabilitation treatment can provide a high level of support (i.e. up to 24 hours a day) and tends towards a medium to longer-term duration. Rehabilitation activities can occur in residential or non-residential settings.

Code 4 refers to pharmacotherapies that include those used as maintenance therapies (e.g. naltrexone, buprenorphine, LAAM and specialist methadone treatment). Use code 1 (withdrawal management) where a pharmacotherapy is used solely for withdrawal.

Code 5 refers to support and case management offered to clients (e.g. treatment provided through youth alcohol and drug outreach services). This choice only applies where support and case management treatment is recorded as individual client data and the treatment activity is not included in any other category. It is noted that in general, service contacts would include a component of support and case management.

Code 6 refers to when there is no other treatment provided to the client other than information and education. It is noted that in general, service contacts would include a component of information and education.

Code 7 refers to when there is no other treatment provided to the client other than an assessment. It is noted that in general, service contacts would include an assessment component.

Verification rules:

Collection methods: Only one code to be selected.

Related data: Related to the data element Other treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 1/07/2001

Comments:

Number of service contacts within a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: **Version number: 1**

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: Number of service contacts made with a client for the purpose of providing alcohol and other drug treatment during a treatment episode.

Context: Alcohol and drug treatment services. This data element provides a measure of the frequency of client contact and service utilisation within a treatment episode.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** QUANTITATIVE VALUE

Field size: **Min.** 1 **Max.** 3 **Representational**

layout: NNN

Data domain:

Guide for use: This data element is a count of therapeutic contacts recorded on a client record. Any client contact that does not constitute part of a treatment should not be considered a 'service contact'. Contact with the client for administrative purposes, such as arranging an appointment, should not be included.

This data element is not collected for residential clients.

Verification rules:

Collection methods: To be collated at the close of an episode. The total number of contacts are calculated or counted for the closed episode.

Related data: Relates to the data element concept Service contact, version 1

Relates to the data element concept, Treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1.

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Other treatment type for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: **Version number:** 1

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: All other forms of treatment provided to the client in addition to the Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Information about treatment provided is of fundamental importance to service delivery and planning.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** CODE

Field size: **Min** 1 **Max.** 1 **Representational layout:** N

Data domain: 1 Withdrawal management (detoxification)

2 Counselling

3 Rehabilitation

4 Pharmacotherapy

8 Other

Guide for use: To be completed at cessation of treatment episode.

Only report treatment recorded in the client's file for a treatment episode that is in addition to, and not a component of, the Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs. Treatment activity reported here is not necessarily for the Principal drug of concern in that it may be treatment for a Other drug of concern.

Code 1 refers to any form of withdrawal management, including medicated and non-medicated.

Code 2 refers to any method of individual or group counselling directed towards identified problems with alcohol and/or other drug use or dependency. This selection excludes counselling activity that is part of a rehabilitation program as defined in code 3.

Code 3 refers to an intensive treatment program that integrates a range of services and therapeutic activities that may include behavioural treatment approaches, recreational activities, social and community living skills, group work and relapse prevention. Rehabilitation treatment can provide a high level of support (i.e. up to 24 hours a day) and tends towards a medium to longer-term duration. Rehabilitation activities can occur in residential or non-residential settings.

Code 4 refers to pharmacotherapies that include those used as maintenance therapies (e.g. Naltrexone, buprenorphine, LAAM and specialist methadone treatment). Use code 1 (withdrawal management) where a

Other treatment type for alcohol and other drugs (continued)

pharmacotherapy is used solely for withdrawal.

Verification rules:

Collection methods: More than one code may be selected. This field should be left blank if there are no other treatment types for the episode.

Related data: Related to the data element Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 1/07/2001

Comments:

Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000423 **Version number:** 2

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: The reason that the client's treatment episode from an alcohol and other drugs treatment service ceased.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Given the levels of attrition within alcohol and other drug treatment programs, it is important to identify the range of different reasons for ceasing treatment with a service.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** CODE

Field size: **Min.** 1 **Max.** 2 **Representational layout:** NN

Data domain:

- 1 Treatment completed
- 2 Change in the main treatment type
- 3 Change in the delivery setting
- 4 Change in the principal drug of concern
- 5 Transferred to another service provider
- 6 Ceased to participate against advice
- 7 Ceased to participate without notice
- 8 Ceased to participate involuntary (non-compliance)
- 9 Ceased to participate at expiation
- 10 Ceased to participate by mutual agreement
- 11 Drug court and /or sanctioned by court diversion service back to jail
- 12 Imprisoned, other than drug court sanctioned
- 13 Died
- 98 Other
- 99 Not stated/inadequately described

Guide for use: Code 1 is to be used when all of the immediate goals of the treatment plan have been fulfilled

Code 2 a treatment episode will end if there is a change in the Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs.

Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs (*continued*)

Guide for use **(continued):**

Code 3 a treatment episode will end if there is a change in the Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs.

Code 4 a treatment episode will end if there is a change in the Principal drug of concern.

Code 5 includes situations where the service provider is no longer the most appropriate and the client is transferred/referred to another service. For example, transfers could occur for clients between non-residential and residential services or between residential services and a hospital.

Code 6 refers to situations where the service provider is aware of the client's intention to stop participating in treatment, and the client ceases despite advice from staff that such action is against the client's best interest.

Code 7 refers to situations where the client ceased to receive treatment without notifying the service provider of their intention to no longer participate.

Code 8 refers to situations where the client's participation has been ceased by the service provider due to non-compliance with the rules or conditions of the program.

Code 9 refers to situations where the client has fulfilled their obligation to satisfy expiation requirements (e.g. participate in a treatment program to avoid having a criminal conviction being recorded against them) as part of a police or court diversion scheme and chooses not to continue with the treatment program.

Code 10 refers to situations where the client ceases participation by mutual agreement with the service provider even though the treatment plan has not been completed. This may include situations where the client has moved out of the area. To be used when codes 2, 3 or 4 is not applicable.

Code 11 applies to drug court and/or court diversion service clients who are sanctioned back into jail for non-compliance with the program.

Code 12 applies to clients who are imprisoned for reasons other than code 11.

Verification rules:

To be collected on cessation of a treatment episode.

Collection methods:

Related data:

Relates to the data element concept Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Relates to the data element Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs (*continued*)

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: **Version number:** 1

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT

Definition: The setting in which the main treatment is provided.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services. Required to identify the settings in which treatment is occurring, allowing for trends in treatment patterns to be monitored.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: Numeric **Representational form:** CODE

Field size: **Min.** 1 **Max.** 1 **Representational**
layout: N

Data domain:

1	Non-residential treatment facility
2	Residential treatment facility
3	Home
4	Outreach setting
8	Other

Guide for use: Code 1 refers to any non-residential centre that provides alcohol and other drug treatment services, including hospital outpatient services and community health centres.

Code 2 refers to community-based settings in which clients reside either temporarily or long-term in a facility, that is not their home or usual place of residence, to receive alcohol and other drug treatment. This does not include ambulatory situations.

Code 3 refers to the client's own home or usual place of residence.

Code 4 refers to an outreach environment, excluding a client's home or usual place of residence, where treatment is provided. An outreach environment may be any public or private location that is not covered by codes 1-3. Mobile/outreach alcohol and other drug treatment service providers would usually provide treatment within this setting.

Verification rules: Only one code to be selected.

Collection methods:

Related data: Related to the data element, Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1.

Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs (continued)

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 1/07/2001

Comments:

Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 01/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000422 **Version number:** 2

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT

Definition: Cessation of a treatment episode occurs when treatment is completed or discontinued; or there has been a change in the principal drug of concern, the main treatment type, or the treatment delivery setting.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: **Representational form:**

Field size: **Min.** **Max.** **Representational layout:**

Data domain:

Guide for use: A client is identified as ceasing a treatment episode if one or more of the following apply:

- their treatment plan is completed;
- they have had no contact with the treatment provider for a period of three months, nor is there a plan in place for further contact;
- their Principal drug of concern for alcohol and other drugs has changed;
- their Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs has changed;
- their Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs has changed; or
- their treatment has ceased for other reasons (e.g. imprisoned, ceased treatment against advice, transferred to another service provider, died).

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related data: Relates to the data element Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1
Relates to the data element Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 01/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000427 **Version number:** 2

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT

Definition: Commencement of a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs is the first service contact when assessment and/or treatment occurs with the treatment provider.

Context: Alcohol and other drug treatment services.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: **Representational form:**

Field size: **Min.** **Max.** **Representational layout:**

Data domain:

Guide for use: A client is identified as commencing a treatment episode if one or more of the following apply:

- they are a new client;
- they are a client recommencing treatment after they have had had no contact with the treatment provider for a period of three months or had any plan in place for further contact;
- their Principal drug of concern for alcohol and other drugs has changed;
- their Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs has changed; or
- their Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs has changed.

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related data: Relates to the data element Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1.

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments:

Service contact

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/1999

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: 000401 **Version number:** 1

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT

Definition: A contact between a patient/client and an ambulatory care health unit (including outpatient and community health units) which results in a dated entry being made in the patient/client record.

Context: Identifies service delivery at the patient level for mental health and alcohol and other drug treatment services (including consultation/liaison, mobile and outreach services).

A service contact can include either face-to-face, telephone or video link service delivery modes. Service contacts would either be with a client, carer or family member or another professional or health worker involved in providing care and do not include contacts of an administrative nature (e.g. telephone contact to schedule an appointment) except where a matter would need to be noted on a patient's record.

Service contacts may be differentiated from administrative and other types of contacts by the need to record data in the client record. However, there may be instances where notes are made in the client record that have not been prompted by a service contact with a patient/client (e.g. noting receipt of test results that require no further action). These instances would not be regarded as a service contact.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: **Representational form:**

Field size: **Min.** **Max.** **Representational layout:**

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection methods:

Related data: Relates to the data element Number of service contact dates, version 2

Relates to the data element Service contact date, version 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Service contact (*continued*)

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Community and mental health from 01/07/2000

Comments: The proposed definition is not able to measure case complexity or level of resource usage with each service contact alone. This limitation also applies to the concept of occasions of service to non-admitted hospital patients. Some overlap with the data element Occasions of service is acknowledged by the National Health Data Committee. The National Health Data Committee also acknowledges that information about group sessions or activities that do not result in a dated entry being made in each individual participant’s patient/client record is not currently covered by this data element concept.

Treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001

Identifying and definitional attributes

Knowledgebase ID: **Version number: 1**

Data element type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT

Definition: The period of contact, with defined dates of commencement and cessation, between a client and a treatment provider or team of providers that occurs in one setting and in which there is no change in the main treatment type or principal drug of concern, and there has not been a non-planned absence of contact for greater than 3 months.

Context: Alcohol and drug treatment services. This concept is required to provide the basis for a standard approach to recording and monitoring patterns of service utilisation by clients.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: **Representational form:**

Field size: **Min.** **Max.** **Representational layout:**

Data domain:

Guide for use:

A treatment episode can have only one Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs and only one Principal drug of concern.

A treatment episode must have a defined Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs and a Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs.

A treatment episode is only delivered within one setting. Where an agency operates in more than one treatment delivery setting, for any client receiving treatment in multiple settings, a separate treatment episode is required for each setting. Consequently, more than one treatment episode may be in progress for a client at the same time, and it is possible for each of these episodes to have different dates of commencement and cessation.

Verification rules:

Collection methods: Is taken as the period starting from the date of commencement of treatment and ending at the date of cessation of treatment episode.

Related data:

Relates to the data element Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Relates to the data element Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Relates to the data element Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs (*continued*)

Relates to the data element Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2

Relates to the data element concept Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs NMDS-WG

National minimum data sets:

Alcohol and other drug treatment services from 01/07/2001

Comments: