

Appendix 2: Survey documentation

Survey of users and data collectors for the evaluation of the National Minimum Data Set for Public Hospital Establishments

Please respond by 13 May 2005

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare ('the Institute') is interested in obtaining contact details for any follow-up queries and to gain an understanding of the types of organisations using the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data. This information will also help us interpret responses to the more specific questions that follow.

Identifying details provided will NOT be used for any other purpose, nor will any individual be identified in the analysis and reporting of results.

<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Job title: _____</p> <p>Unit/section: _____</p> <p>Organisation: _____</p> <p>E-mail address: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/town: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____ Fax: _____</p> <p>Date this survey was completed: _____</p>
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For whom are you responding? Please indicate (X) all that apply.

Respondent	[X]
On behalf of yourself	<input type="checkbox"/>
On behalf of your unit or section within an organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
On behalf of your organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments</i>	

1. Users of the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data

The Institute is interested in gaining an understanding of the types of organisations that use the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data. A user is defined as any person who uses the NMDS specifications to either collect or to access and analyse NMDS-based data. In order for us to develop an understanding of who the main user groups are, please indicate the main user group to which you belong.

Please indicate (X) the main user group to which you belong.

User group	[X]
State or territory health authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other state or territory government department	<input type="checkbox"/>
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Australian Government Department of Veterans Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Australian Government department	<input type="checkbox"/>
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public hospital	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private hospital	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other health service provider	<input type="checkbox"/>
University or other research organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private planning consultant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clinical equipment/therapeutic device company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pharmaceutical company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Software developer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interest group	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Use of the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data

The Institute is interested in obtaining information about the way the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data are currently being used. This section includes questions on:

- why you use the NMDS specifications or NMDS-based data
- how you access NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data
- how familiar you are with the NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data
- how frequently you use NMDS specifications and NMDS-based data.

**2.1. For what purpose do you use the NMDS specifications and the NMDS-based data?
Rate the three most common purposes, where 1 is the most common and 3 is the least common.**

Purpose	[1,2,3]
Planning and monitoring hospital resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comparisons and benchmarking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Management and purchasing of hospital services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy advice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health services research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistical reporting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collection and reporting of NMDS-based data	<input type="checkbox"/>
Software development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.2. (optional) Please provide more detail about the purpose(s) for which you use the NMDS specifications or NMDS-based data.

Example: Investigation of the cost of hospital food supplies by state.

2.3. Please indicate (X) at which level you use the data.

Level	[X]
Data for one hospital only	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data for hospital group (within state/territory or national)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data for state or territory	<input type="checkbox"/>
National	<input type="checkbox"/>
International	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.4. Please rate the three most common sources you use to access the NMDS specifications, where 1 is the most common and 3 is the least common.

Source	[1,2,3]
<i>National health data dictionary</i> publication	[]
National Health Data Dictionary publication online	[]
The Knowledgebase	[]
State/territory data specifications	[]
Hospital-based data specifications	[]
Other, please specify _____	[]
Not applicable, do not access	[]

2.5. Please rate the three most common sources of NMDS-based data you use, where 1 is the most common and 3 is the least common.

Source	[1,2,3]
<i>AIHW Australian Hospital Statistics</i> publication + Internet tables	[]
Other AIHW publications	[]
AIHW National Public Hospital Establishments Database (external user, <i>ad hoc</i> data requests)	[]
AIHW National Public Hospital Establishments Database (internal, AIHW user)	[]
Hospital database	[]
State or territory health authorities' hospitals database	[]
State or territory publications	[]
Department of Health and Ageing <i>State of our Public Hospitals</i> publication	[]
Healthwiz	[]
Other, please specify _____	[]
Not applicable, do not use	[]

2.6. Please rate (X) your overall knowledge of the NMDS specifications or the NMDS-based data.

Knowledge	NMDS specifications	NMDS-based data
Very familiar	[]	[]
Familiar	[]	[]
Unfamiliar	[]	[]

2.7. Please indicate (X) how often you use the NMDS specifications or the NMDS-based data.

Frequency	NMDS specifications	NMDS-based data
Daily	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Occasionally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Utility

As outlined in the explanatory notes, the main purpose of this survey is to gain an understanding of whether the NMDS is useful and whether it suits your current requirements. In this section, respondents are asked to rate the importance and usefulness of the NMDS overall and each individual data element, and to indicate which data elements should remain unchanged, which should be modified and which deleted. Please note, the data elements are as specified in the *National health data dictionary* version 12.

3.1. Please indicate (X) the importance and usefulness of the NMDS overall and each individual data element. Please provide comments on whether each data element should remain unchanged, be modified or deleted. Within your comments please indicate why a data element should be modified or deleted and describe the proposed modifications, for example, changes to the name, definition or data domains.

When assessing **importance**, think of how significant the whole NMDS and each data element is to a *national* collection of data on Public Hospital Establishments. For example, is the NMDS and each data element important for the public good and national interest?

When assessing **usefulness**, consider whether the NMDS and each data element suits your current requirements. Does this data element supply useful information to you or your organisation?

If a data element is highly important and highly useful, it should probably remain unchanged. However, if a data element is highly important, but not useful, it may be a function of the way it is defined, in which case it probably needs to be modified.

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
NMDS for Public Hospital Establishments	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
System level expenditure elements (dollars)								
Capital expenditure - gross (accrual accounting)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Capital expenditure - net (accrual accounting)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Indirect health care expenditure	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Establishment identification data elements (name/code)								
Establishment identifier	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Establishment number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Establishment sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Region code	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
State/Territory identifier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Establishment type	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Geographical location of establishment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Establishment level expenditure elements (dollars)								
Administrative expenses	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Interest payments	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Depreciation	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Patient transport	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Repairs and maintenance	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Superannuation employer contributions (including funding basis)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Salaries and wages	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - salaried medical officers	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - registered nurses	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - enrolled nurses	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - student nurses	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - trainee/pupil nurses	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Salaries and wages - other personal care staff	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - diagnostic & health professionals	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - administrative & clerical staff	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Salaries and wages - domestic & other staff	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								
Domestic services	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Payments to visiting medical officers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Drug supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Food supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Medical and surgical supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Other recurrent expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Services data elements (numbers or yes/no)								
Full-time equivalent staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Specialised service indicators	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Occasions of service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Type of non-admitted patient care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Type of non-admitted patient care (public psych, alcohol & drug)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Individual/group session	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Group sessions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Number of available beds for admitted patients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Teaching status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Revenue data elements (dollars)								
Patient revenue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Other revenues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Recoveries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Supporting data element concepts								
Hospital	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								

Data element	Importance				Usefulness			
	Not important	Important	Highly important	Unsure	Not useful	Useful	Highly useful	Unsure
Hospital boarder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Non-admitted patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Overnight-stay patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Same-day patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								
Separation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comments:</i>								

4. Areas for development

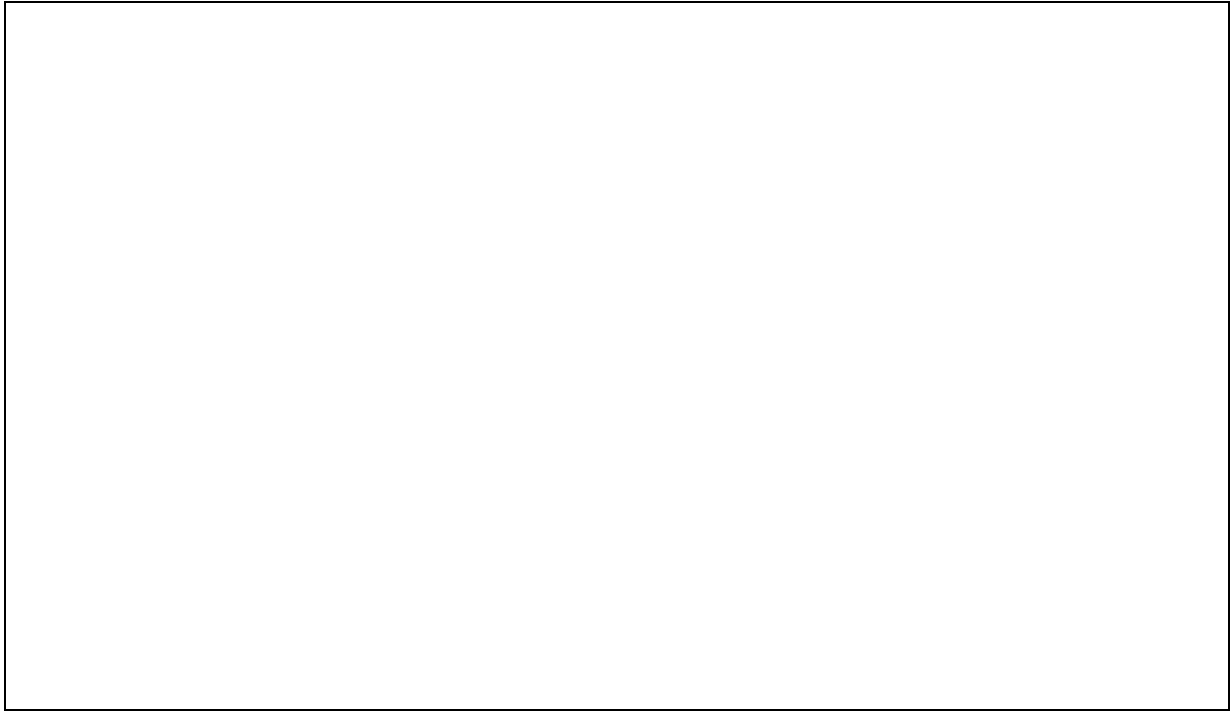
The Institute is interested in obtaining your views on development of the Public Hospital Establishments NMDS, including

- . data elements in the *National health data dictionary* but not included in this NMDS,
- . new data elements that would make the NMDS more useful,
- . priorities for definitional development, and
- . possible changes to the scope of the NMDS.

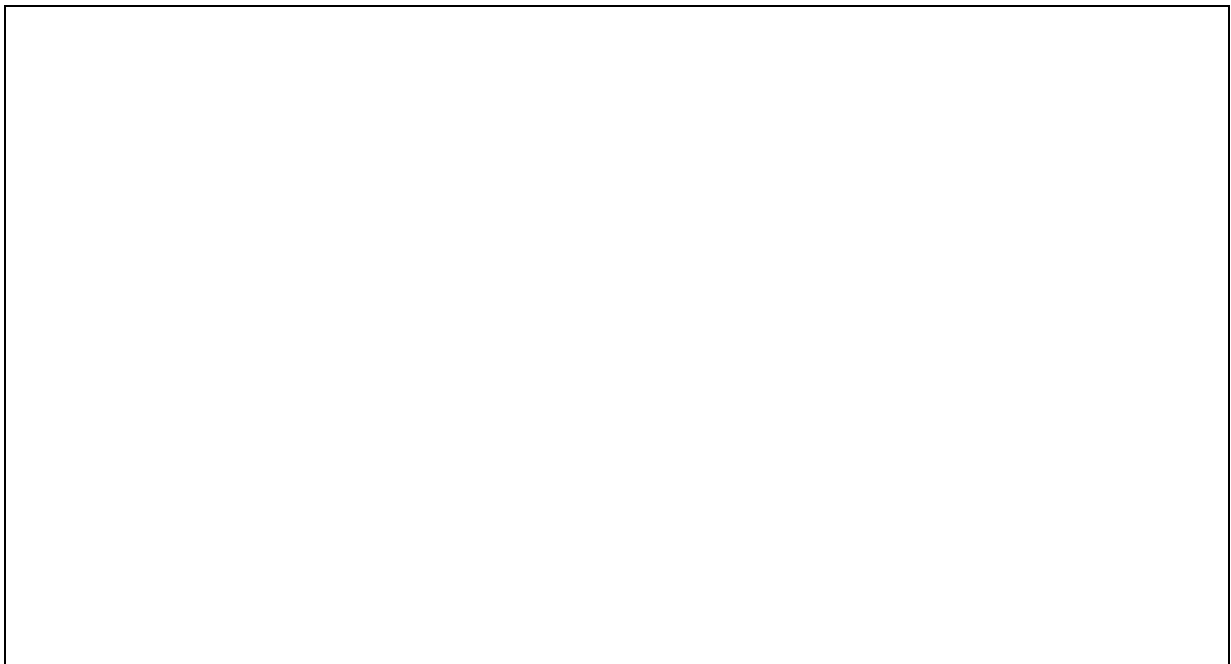
4.1. Are there any data elements that should be included in the NMDS? In particular, are there any data elements already in the [National Health Data Dictionary](#), but not in this NMDS, which you believe need to be included in the Public Hospital Establishments NMDS?

4.2. What do you see as the priorities for definitional development for data elements, data element concepts or scope? Suggestions could include data elements not yet defined or not yet included in the [National Health Data Dictionary](#).

4.3. Do you have any comments on the scope (coverage) of the NMDS?



4.4. Who should be consulted about any proposed data development?



5. Other comments

Please provide any additional views or comments you have that may assist the evaluation.



If you would like to provide more detail on any of the questions, please e-mail susan.windross@aihw.gov.au.

Please respond by 13 May 2005

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Explanatory notes

This survey seeks your views as users of the National Minimum Data Set for Public Hospital Establishments (referred to from here on as 'the NMDS'), either as a tool for collection of data or as a specification of data for analysis, on its usefulness and whether it suits current requirements. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare ('the Institute') would like your views on the usefulness of NMDS-based data as a whole, views on individual data elements and data element concepts and areas for development. The Institute also seeks your views on whether data collectors are using the *National health data dictionary* (NHDD) data definitions. Additional comments and recommendations would also be welcome.

Please note that this survey only refers to nationally reportable items that are used at a national level.

The National Minimum Data Set for Public Hospital Establishments

A National Minimum Data Set is a minimum set of data elements agreed by the National Health Information Management Principal Committee (NHIMPC) for mandatory collection and reporting at a national level. One NMDS may include data elements that are also included in another NMDS.

An NMDS includes agreement on specified data elements (discrete items of information or variables) and supporting data element concepts as well as the scope of the application of those data elements and the statistical units for collection. Definitions of all data elements that are included in NMDS collections in the health sector are included in the *National health data dictionary* (NHDD).

The NMDS for Public Hospital Establishments is a specific set of data that is collected on all public hospitals. It is summarised in Attachment A.

The scope of the NMDS is public acute and psychiatric hospitals, including alcohol and drug treatment centres. Hospitals specialising in dental, ophthalmic aids and other specialised acute medical or surgical care are included. Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and Australia's external Territories are not currently included.

The NMDS forms an important part of the National Public Hospital Establishments Database (NPHEd) and informs the annual report Australian hospital statistics; as well as State and Territory-based hospital data collections.

Data for this set (numerical and in dollars) are collected at the establishment level from administrative record systems and forwarded to the relevant State or Territory health authority on a regular basis. Data for each financial year are then provided to the Institute for national collation, on an annual basis.

The latest data available for reporting is for 2002–03 and is based on version 11 of the NHDD. The data currently being collected is based on the most recent version of the NHDD, Version 12 Supplement. Therefore, the survey seeks comments on the utility of the current version of the NHDD.

Purpose of the evaluation

The NMDS was first specified in 1989 and has been amended in minor ways since then. However, there have been no comprehensive reviews of the quality and utility of the Public Hospital Establishments NMDS data and data concepts.

As considerable resources are used at the State and Territory and national levels to collect data for the NMDS, a comprehensive evaluation is essential to determine whether the data collection suits current requirements and to take actions to improve data quality and consistency. To this end, the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council, through the NHIMPC has funded the Institute to conduct an evaluation of the NMDS.

This evaluation follows on from the evaluation of the NMDS for Admitted Patient Care conducted in 2001–02 and the evaluation of the Perinatal NMDS 2002–03. As a result of these evaluations, some changes have been made to improve the quality and usefulness of the data by clarifying definitions of some data elements. Work to consider more substantial changes is underway.

As some data elements apply to more than one NMDS, some Public Hospital Establishments data elements may have already been discussed in other fora. Recommendations from this evaluation will be considered by the groups already reviewing those data elements and it will be important to maintain consistency between the evaluation recommendations and working group recommendations.

The evaluation of the NMDS for Public Hospital Establishments involves:

1. Reviewing the 2002–03 hospital establishments data provided to the Institute by States and Territories, including an assessment of the extent to which data were provided in accordance with the NMDS specifications as published in the *National health data dictionary* version 11.
2. Reviewing the utility of the NMDS through consultation with users and data providers, including an assessment of whether the NMDS suits current requirements, such as informing policy development and reporting on performance.

The evaluation is being done in consultation with Australian Hospital Statistics Advisory Committee which includes representatives from:

- State and Territory health authorities
- Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
- Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Private Health Insurance Administration Council
- Australian Healthcare Association
- Australian Private Hospitals Association
- National Centre for Classification in Health.

A report of the evaluation will be prepared for consideration by the Statistical Information Management Committee (SIMC), which reports to the NHIMPC.

Follow-up data development

The results of the evaluation will identify priorities for future development of the NMDS and will form the basis for recommendations to the NHIMPC. Subsequent data element development and other development activities will be undertaken in consultation with the States and Territories and other stakeholders through the Health Data Standards Committee (HDSC) and the SIMC.

As a standing committee of the NHIMPC, the HDSC assesses data definitions proposed for inclusion in the *National health data dictionary* and makes recommendations to the NHIMPC on revisions and additions to each annual version of the Dictionary.

The HDSC uses detailed criteria for determining the eligibility of data element definitions for inclusion in the NHDD (see Attachment B). The process for amending the NMDS is outlined at Attachment C

The SIMC, also a standing committee of the NHIMPC, has responsibility for specifying the content of NMDS. This includes any changes to existing data elements, proposals for new data elements for collection or changes to scope. Changes to an NMDS therefore require approval of both SIMC and HDSC and then endorsement by the NHIMPC.

The NHIMPC meets in December each year to consider proposals affecting National Minimum Data Sets to be implemented or altered in July of the following year. Therefore any proposed changes to the NMDS identified through this evaluation and endorsed by the NHIMPC will be implemented in the jurisdictions in July 2006 at the earliest.

Outline of the NHDD V12 of the NMDS for Public Hospital Establishments

Public Hospital Establishments NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Metadata type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1989

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this dataset is establishment level data for public acute and psychiatric hospitals, including hospitals operated for or by the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs, and alcohol and drug treatment centres.

From version 9 Patient-level data remains in the new NMDS called Admitted patient care. These new NMDS replace the version 8 NMDS called Institutional health care.

Similar data for private hospitals and free standing day hospital facilities is collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the Private Health Establishments Collection.

Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and Australia's external territories are not currently included. Hospitals specialising in dental, ophthalmic aids and other specialised acute medical or surgical care are included.

Statistical units: Public hospital establishments.

Collection methodology: Data are collected at each hospital from patient administrative and clinical record systems. Hospitals forward data to the relevant state or territory health authority on a regular basis (for example, monthly).

National reporting arrangements: State and territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated:

Financial years ending 30 June each year.

Data elements included:

Administrative expenses, version 1 NHDD V12 page 31

Capital expenditure, version 1 NHDD V12 page 86

Capital expenditure – gross (accrual accounting), version 2 NHDD V12 page 88

Capital expenditure – net (accrual accounting), version 2 NHDD V12 page 90

Depreciation, version 1 NHDD V12 page 181

Domestic services, version 1 NHDD V12 page 193

Drug supplies, version 1 NHDD V12 page 194

Establishment identifier, version NHDD V12 page 211

Establishment type, version 1 NHDD V12 page 215

Attachment A

Food supplies, version 1 NHDD V12	page 233
Full-time equivalent staff, version 2 NHDD V12	page 243
Geographical location of establishment, version 2 NHDD V12	page 247
Group sessions, version 1 NHDD V12	page 264
Indirect health care expenditure, version 1 NHDD V12	page 303
Individual/group session, version 1 NHDD V12	page 305
Interest payments, version 1 NHDD V12	page 317
Medical and surgical supplies, version 1 NHDD V12	page 341
Number of available beds for admitted patients, version 2 NHDD V12	page 401
Occasions of service, version 1 NHDD V12	page 418
Other recurrent expenditure, version 1 NHDD V12	page 429
Other revenues, version 1 NHDD V12	page 430
Patient revenue, version 1 NHDD V12	page 443
Patient transport, version 1 NHDD V12	page 444
Payments to visiting medical officers, version 1 NHDD V12	page 446
Recoveries, version 1 NHDD V12	page 503
Repairs and maintenance, version 1 NHDD V12	page 514
Salaries and wages, version 1 NHDD V12	page 517
Specialised service indicators, version 1 NHDD V12	page 538
Superannuation employer contributions (including funding basis), version 1 NHDD V12	page 548
Teaching status, version 1 NHDD V12	page 552
Type of non-admitted patient care, version 1 NHDD V12	page 607
Type of non-admitted patient care (public psychiatric, alcohol and drug), version 1 NHDD V12	page 611

Supporting data elements and data element concepts:

Australian state/territory identifier, version 4 [∇]	page 256
Establishment number, version 4 [∇]	page 278
Establishment sector, version 4 [∇]	page 279
Hospital, version 1.....	NHDD V12 page 279
Hospital boarder, version 1.....	NHDD V12 page 280
Non-admitted patient, version 1.....	NHDD V12 page 385
Overnight-stay patient, version 3.....	NHDD V12 page 436
Patient, version 1.....	NHDD V12 page 437
Region code, version 2.....	NHDD V12 page 508
Same-day patient, version 1.....	NHDD V12 page 519
Separation, version 3.....	NHDD V12 page 522

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

Attachment A

Data elements in common with other NMDS: See Appendix C, NHDD.

Scope links with other NMDS: Episodes of care for admitted patients, which occur partly or fully in designated psychiatric units of public acute hospitals or in public psychiatric hospitals:

- Admitted patient care NMDS, version 1
- Admitted Patient Mental Health Care NMDS, version 1
- Admitted Patient Palliative Care NMDS, version 1

Source organisation: National Health Information Group.

Comments: Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Criteria used by the Health Data Standards Committee to assess inputs to the National health data dictionary

The following criteria are used by the Health Data Standards Committee as a guide to determining the eligibility of data element definitions submitted for inclusion in the *National health data dictionary*.

To be recommended for inclusion in the dictionary, the submitted data element definitions should:

1. Not duplicate existing data element definitions in the *National health data dictionary* or, where overlap exists, display greater utility than existing definitions.
2. Comply with the principles for developing *National health data dictionary* definitions including presentation according to the specifications for data element definitions and having regard for the key features of a good quality data definition.
3. Be accompanied by evidence that the data element definitions were developed:
 - using a national consultation process involving all relevant jurisdictions and a suitable range of recognised experts in the field, where appropriate
 - with consensus from the parties to that process
 - with all jurisdictions and experts, where possible, having agreed to or endorsing the submitted data definitions
 - taking into account the implications for data collection systems and reporting requirements (for National Minimum Data Sets).
5. Indicate the degree to which the data element definitions have been implemented or have been agreed to be implemented by the constituency.
6. Show evidence of testing for all new data elements being recommended for the first time. Results of pilot testing, where available, should be incorporated into the proposal. Where data element definitions have been developed from well-established data collections, evidence of the feasibility of collection and the utility of the proposed definitions should be included in the proposal.
7. Be accompanied by a recommended process for implementation, review and future development and maintenance of the definitions.

Business case template for a new NMDS or a significant change to an existing NMDS

Background

- Includes:
- origins and rationale for the proposal
 - development process undertaken to date
 - details of national consultation, including details of experts and/or others involved with or consulted during development
 - degree of consensus reached on submitted data elements
 - results of pilot testing completed or proposed testing arrangements.

Detailed purpose and objectives

- Includes:
- how the information will be used
 - fit with national strategic directions
 - the likely benefits at the national level (and the likelihood that they will be realised)
 - if appropriate, the states and territories to advise on the likely benefits at the jurisdiction level (and the likelihood that they will be realised).

Details of the NMDS:

- Includes:
- scope
 - data elements
 - statistical units
 - start date
 - national reporting arrangements
 - other attributes as specified in the NHDD.

Implementation issues

- Includes:
- any plans and timetables for staggered or phased implementation
 - feasibility of collection
 - notes on likely late or non-participation by jurisdictions
 - notes on effects of these on the NMDS
 - if appropriate, the States and Territories to advise the likely internal costs and implementation issues for their systems.

Commitment statement

Final, binding comments from the states and territories on their willingness and ability to implement the NMDS according to the format and timetable proposed.