

Modified National Minimum Data Sets

Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS

The Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs' NMDS Working group requested that the description of the NMDS Scope be revised to be more accurate and less ambiguous. The issue of which services, which clients and which activities are within scope for the NMDS-AODTS has been a cause of concern for the Working Group. Many services, clients and activities cross over within this sector making decisions on inclusion or exclusion from the collection problematic for service providers. It was felt that the definition of scope in the NHDD was not comprehensive enough to avoid confusion in the interpretation.

The NHDC approved the submitted changes and they were endorsed by the NHIMG.

Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2002 Version number: 3

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 2000

Scope: Publicly funded government and non-government agencies providing alcohol and/or drug treatment services. Including community-based ambulatory services and outpatient services.

The following services are currently not included in the coverage:

- Services based in prisons and other correctional institutions;
- Agencies that provide primarily accommodation or overnight stays such as 'sobering-up shelters' and 'half-way houses';
- Agencies that provide services concerned primarily with health promotion;
- Needle and syringe programs;
- Agencies whose sole function is to provide prescribing and/or dosing of methadone; and
- Acute care and psychiatric hospitals, or alcohol and drug treatment units that report to the admitted patient care NMDS and do not provide treatment to non-admitted patients.
- Clients who are on a methadone maintenance program may be included in the collection where they also receive other types of treatment.

Statistical units: Completed treatment episodes for clients who participate in a treatment type as specified in the data element Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs.

Collection methodology: Data to be reported in each agency on completed treatment episode and then forwarded to State/Territory authorities for collation.

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 collected: Financial years ending 30 June each year.

Data elements included:

Client type – alcohol and other drug treatment services, version 2 [∇]	NHDD v11, page 64
Country of birth, version 3	page 22
Date of birth, version 3.....	page 23
Date of commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1.....	page 295

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Data elements included (continued):	Date of cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2..... page 374
	Establishment identifier, version 3..... page 184
	Establishment type, version 1 page 187
	Geographical location of establishment, version 2 page 200
	Indigenous status, version 3..... page 26
	Injecting drug use, version 1 page 82
	Main treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1..... page 344
	Method of use for principal drug of concern, version 1..... page 83
	Number of service contacts within a treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2 [∇] NHDD v11, page 69
	Other drugs of concern, version 1 page 162
	Other treatment type for alcohol and other drugs, version 1..... page 382
	Person identifier, version 1..... page 258
	Preferred language, version 2 page 107
	Principal drug of concern, version 1 page 170
	Reason for cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2 page 384
	Sex, version 2..... page 30
	Source of referral to alcohol and other drug treatment service, version 1 page 308
	Treatment delivery setting for alcohol and other drugs, version 1 page 209
Supporting data element concepts:	Cessation of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2..... page 372
	Commencement of treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 2..... page 288
	Service contact, version 1..... page 364
	Treatment episode for alcohol and other drugs, version 1 page 367
Data elements in common with other NMDSs:	See Appendix C
Source organisation:	National Health Information Management Group
Comments:	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

◆ New this version

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Elective surgery waiting times NMDS

These changes were proposed by the Waiting Times for Elective Surgery Working Group (WTESWG) which has representation from the States and Territories, the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

The following represent changes agreed by the National Health Data Committee at its meeting in October 2001, as amended by the National Health Information Management Group's decision in November 2001 to disallow the requirement to include time waited on transfer from one waiting list to another.

Changes to NMDS description

Scope: inclusion of all patients on or removed from waiting lists managed by public hospitals

- Inclusion of all patients on or removed from waiting lists managed by public hospitals in the scope of the NMDS was agreed. Investigation of the inclusion of public patients on or removed from waiting lists managed by private hospitals in the scope of the collection has been flagged as a future direction in the 'Comments' section.

Clarification of the types of data in the NMDS

- Headings have been added to the 'Scope' description to distinguish between Census data and Removals data. The scope is different for each, in that only patients who are 'ready for care' as defined in the Patient listing status data element are in scope for Census data. For Removals data, patients who are 'ready for care' and patients who are 'not ready for care' are in scope.

Changes to Data elements

Some of the data elements included in the NMDS are specific to either Census data or Removals data. A separate list of data elements has been included for each data type. In addition, some data elements are not required for reporting to the NMDS, but are necessary for the derivation of other data elements, or for defining the scope of the collection. Other data elements have been recommended for deletion or addition. The changes are as follows:

- Category reassignment date, Patient listing status and Waiting list category are not required for reporting to the NMDS. These data elements have been removed from the 'Data elements included' section. A note has been added to the 'Comments' section to indicate that Category reassignment date is necessary for the derivation of data elements included in the NMDS and should be recorded at the hospital level and reported to State and Territory health authorities as required. Patient listing status and Waiting list category are necessary for determining whether patients are in scope for the NMDS. These data elements should also be recorded at the hospital level and reported to State and Territory health authorities as required.
- Patients can be removed from a waiting list for admission or for another reason. At present, waiting time information is available for patients who are removed from waiting lists for admission, but is not available for patients who are removed from waiting lists for reasons other than admission. NHIMG agreed that:
 - The data elements *Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list* and *Removal date* be added to the NMDS.
 - The data element *Waiting time at admission* be deleted from the NMDS and from the NHDD.
 - The data element *Admission date* be deleted from the NMDS.

Elective surgery waiting times NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001 *Version number:* 3

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1994

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this minimum data set is patients on, or removed from waiting lists for elective surgery (as defined in the Waiting list category data element) which are managed by public acute hospitals. This will include private patients treated in public hospitals, and may include public patients treated in private hospitals.

Hospitals may also collect information for other care (as defined in the Waiting list category data element), but this is not part of the NMDS for elective surgery waiting times.

Patients on or removed from waiting lists managed by hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and Australia's external Territories are not currently included.

There are two different types of data collected for this minimum data set (census data and removals data) and the scope and list of data elements associated with each is different.

Census data

Data are collected for patients on elective surgery waiting lists who are yet to be admitted to hospital or removed for another reason. The scope is patients on elective surgery waiting lists on a census date who are 'ready for care' as defined in the 'patient listing status' data element.

Removals data

Data are collected for patients who have been removed from an elective surgery waiting list (for admission or another reason). Patients who were 'ready for care' and patients who were 'not ready for care' at the time of removal are included.

Statistical units: Patients on waiting lists on census dates; patients removed from waiting lists (for admission or other reason) during each financial year.

Collection methodology: Category reassignment date is required for reporting to the NMDS, but is necessary for the derivation of Waiting time at census date and Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list. Waiting list category and Patient listing status are not required for reporting to the NMDS, but are necessary for determining whether patients are in scope for the NMDS. These data elements should be collected at the local level and reported to State and Territory health authorities as required.

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 for removals data
Census dates are 30 September, 31 December, 31 March and 30 June

Data elements included:

Census data

Census date, version 2	page 368
Clinical urgency, version 2.....	page 394
Extended wait patient, version 1.....	page 414
Establishment identifier, version 3.....	page 184
Establishment number, version 3.....	page 186
Establishment sector, version 3	page 203
Indicator procedure, version 3	page 340
Listing date for care, version 4 [∇]	NHDD version 11, page 68
Overdue patient, version 3.....	page 422
Region code, version 2.....	page 191
Surgical specialty, version 1.....	page 80
Waiting time at a census date, version 2 [∇]	NHDD version 11, page 79

Removals data

Clinical urgency, version 2.....	page 394
Extended wait patient, version 1.....	page 414
Establishment identifier, version 3.....	page 184
Establishment number, version 3.....	page 186
Establishment sector, version 3	page 203
Indicator procedure, version 3.....	page 340
Listing date for care, version 4 [∇]	NHDD version 11, page 68
Overdue patient, version 3.....	page 422
Reason for removal from elective surgery waiting list, Version 4 [∇]	NHDD version 11, page 74
Region code, version 2.....	page 191
Surgical specialty, version 1.....	page 80
Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list, Version 1 [∇]	NHDD version 11, page 57
Removal date, version 1 [◆]	NHDD version 11, page 54

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Supporting data element concepts:	Clinical review, version 1	page 393
	Elective care, version 1.....	page 335
	Elective surgery, version 1	page 336
	Hospital census, version 1.....	page 369
	Hospital waiting list, version 2 ^v	NHDD version 11, page 67
	Non-elective care, version 1	page 354

Data elements in common with other NMDSs: Establishment identifier, establishment number, establishment sector, region code

Scope links with other NMDSs:

Source organisation: National Health Information Management Group

Comments:

For the purposes of this NMDS, public hospitals include hospitals which are set up to provide services for public patients (as public hospitals do), but which are managed privately.

Other data elements associated with this NMDS are:

Category reassignment date, version 2 ^v	NHDD version 11, page 63
Waiting list category, version 3 ^v	NHDD version 11, page 76
Patient listing status, version 3 ^v	NHDD version 11, page 70

Category reassignment date is not required for reporting to the NMDS, but is necessary for the derivation of Waiting time at census date and Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list. Waiting list category and Patient listing status are not required for reporting to the NMDS, but are necessary for determining whether patients are in scope for the NMDS. These data elements should be collected at the local level and reported to State and Territory health authorities as required.

The inclusion of public patients on or removed from elective surgery waiting lists managed by private hospitals will be investigated in the future.

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

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