

Emergency Department Data Dictionary

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Functional Sub group Clinical/ Patient Services - Critical care
Clinical/ Patient Services - Information and data

Summary The Emergency Department Data Dictionary (Version 4) outlines the data standards for the Emergency Department Data Collection.

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Applies to Area Health Services/Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporation, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations - Non Declared, Affiliated Health Organisations - Declared, Public Health System Support Division, Public Health Units, Public Hospitals

Audience Emergency Departments

Distributed to Public Health System, NSW Department of Health

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Policy Manual Patient Matters

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Status Active

Director-General

This Policy Directive may be varied, withdrawn or replaced at any time. Compliance with this directive is **mandatory** for NSW Health and is a condition of subsidy for public health organisations.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DATA DICTIONARY

PURPOSE

One of the key functions of the Emergency Department Data Collection is to gather data on Emergency Department activity across the state.

The purposes of collecting Emergency Department (ED) data in NSW are:

- To assist clinicians in the management of patients; and
- To enable comparisons of performance in respect to access to services, quality clinical outcomes, patient management, customer satisfaction and cost effectiveness.

The *Emergency Department Data Dictionary (Version 4)* (refer to Attachment section below), provides definitions for key ED data items, including the mandatory extract for the NSW Health Information Exchange (HIE), which are outlined in the extract layout formats.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

All facilities providing data to the Emergency Department Data Collection are required to comply with standards outlined in the *Emergency Department Data Dictionary (Version 4)* by **1 July 2010**.

IMPLEMENTATION

Area Health Service Executive and Emergency Department Management, in conjunction with software vendors, are to ensure relevant staff are advised and consulted with on implementation of this policy.

Continued improvement in Emergency Department Performance remains a high priority for NSW Health. Consequently, the frequent provision of Emergency Department data to enable regular monitoring of Emergency Department performance and evaluation of strategies to address the issue is considered a high priority.

For this reason, Greater Metropolitan Emergency Departments are required to supply weekly data. The reference period for weekly data is 12:00am Monday to 11:59pm Sunday. The deadline for submission of data for loading to the Department's Health Information Exchange is 5pm Wednesday following the reference week. All Rural and Regional Emergency Departments with electronic source system are required to submit data monthly, by the 5th working day in the month following the reference month.

All data submissions must comply with the *Emergency Department Data Dictionary (Version 4)*.

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Amendment notes
November 2009 (PD2009_071)	Deputy Director- General HSQPI	New policy for implementation of Version 4 of the Emergency Department Data Dictionary (previous versions not issued under policy).

ATTACHMENT

1. The Emergency Department Data Dictionary (Version 4) is available from the
Emergency Department Data Collection web page at
<http://internal.health.nsw.gov.au/data/collections/edc/>