

## Section Two: *Concepts and derived items*

# Initiation of patient management

**Classification**

Concept

**Definition**

Commencement of investigation, care and/or treatment according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines.

**Guide for Use**

Where a patient is managed according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines, initiation of patient management occurs at the start of the occasion of contact between the patient and staff member/s when this protocol is implemented.

Patient management may be:

- Initiated by a doctor, nurse, mental health practitioner or other recognised health professional able to commence patient management.
- Commenced at or after triage.

Observations taken to monitor a patient pending a clinical decision regarding commencement of a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines do not represent initiation of patient management, however once a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines has been determined, patient management may be initiated by the taking of observations.

Placement of a patient in a cubicle and/or routine initial assessment and/or observations by a nurse does not constitute initiation of patient management.

The process of re-triage is considered a continuation of the triage process and does not constitute initiation of patient management.

## **Time to initiation of patient management**

**Classification**

Derived Item

**Definition**

Time to initiation of patient management (in minutes) is the difference between Arrival Date/Time and the Date/Time that the emergency department staff member commenced management of the patient's presenting problem.

**Guide for Use**

Time to initiation of patient management is calculated as: [The earliest of [First seen by doctor date/time] and [First seen by mental health practitioner date/time] and [Nurse initiation of patient management date/time]] minus [Arrival Date/Time]

For reporting purposes, patients who are dead on arrival (Departure Status 8) or who leave the emergency department before treatment commences (Departure Status 10 and 11) are excluded from this measure.

## Section Three: *Data definitions*

# Nurse initiation of patient management date

## Specification

**Definition** The date on which a nurse initiated management of the patient, according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or guidelines.

**Datatype** Date **Form** Date

**Field size** Eight **Layout** DDMMYYYY

**Reported for** All presentations where a nurse has initiated management of the patient.

**Reporting guide** Where a patient is managed according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or guidelines, *Nurse initiation of patient management* occurs at the start of the occasion of contact between the patient and nurse/s when this protocol is implemented.

Where patient management is initiated by a doctor or mental health practitioner, this should be reported in the relevant *First seen by ...date* field.

Observations taken to monitor a patient pending a clinical decision regarding commencement of a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines do not represent initiation of patient management, however once a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines has been determined, patient management may be initiated by the taking of observations.

Placement of a patient in a cubicle and/or routine initial assessment and/or observations by a nurse does not constitute initiation of patient management.

The process of re-triage is a continuation of the triage process and does not constitute initiation of patient management.

**Edits**

E180	Nurse initiation of patient management date/time invalid
E181	Nurse initiation of patient management date/time before triage date/time
E182	Clinician date/time and Departure status combination invalid
E351	Potentially excessive time to initiation of patient management

**Related items** *Nurse initiation of patient management time*

## Administration

**Purpose** Used in the calculation of *Time to Initiation of patient management*.

**Principal data users** Access and Metropolitan Performance Branch, DHS.

**Collection start** 1 July 2009 **Version** 1 1 July 2009

**Definition source** DHS (VEMD Technical Reference Group)

# Nurse initiation of patient management time

## Specification

<b>Definition</b>	The time at which a nurse initiated management of the patient, according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or guidelines.		
<b>Datatype</b>	Time	<b>Form</b>	Quantitative Value
<b>Field size</b>	Four	<b>Layout</b>	HHMM or blank
<b>Reported for</b>	All presentations where a nurse has initiated management of the patient.		
<b>Reporting guide</b>	<p>Where a patient is managed according to an established clinical pathway, protocol or guidelines, <i>Nurse initiation of patient management</i> occurs at the start of the occasion of contact between the patient and nurse/s when this protocol is implemented.</p> <p>Where patient management is initiated by a doctor or mental health practitioner, this should be reported in the relevant <i>First seen by ...time</i> field.</p> <p>Observations taken to monitor a patient pending a clinical decision regarding commencement of a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines do not represent initiation of patient management, however once a clinical pathway, protocol or set of guidelines has been determined, patient management may be initiated by the taking of observations.</p> <p>Placement of a patient in a cubicle and/or routine initial assessment and/or observations by a nurse does not constitute initiation of patient management.</p> <p>The process of re-triage is a continuation of the triage process and does not constitute initiation of patient management.</p>		
<b>Edits</b>	E180	Nurse initiation of patient management date/time invalid	
	E181	Nurse initiation of patient management date/time before triage date/time	
	E182	Clinician date/time and Departure status combination invalid	
	E351	Potentially excessive time to initiation of patient management	
<b>Related items</b>	<i>Nurse initiation of patient management date</i>		
<b>Administration</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	Used in the calculation of <i>Time to Initiation of patient management</i> .		
<b>Principal data users</b>	Access and Metropolitan Performance Branch, DHS.		
<b>Collection start</b>	1 July 2009	<b>Version</b>	1 1 July 2009
<b>Definition source</b>	DHS (VEMD Technical Reference Group)		

