ACT Emergency Department (ED)

# Dataset Information

| **Aspect** |  | **Comment** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Dataset Description |  | The primary purpose of collecting Emergency Department data in ACT is to assist clinicians in the management of patients; and enable comparisons of performance in respect to access to services, quality clinical outcomes, patient management, customer satisfaction and cost effectiveness. Each record in the collection represents a presentation to an emergency department.    The Emergency Department Data Collection (EDDC) commenced in 2000 but is only available through the Master Linkage Key from July 2005. There are two participating Emergency Departments in the ACT, one at each public hospital: The Canberra Hospital and North Canberra Hospital (formerly Calvary Private). |
| Data Quality Statement | General quality | The ACT Admitted Patient Data Collection has diagnoses coded by trained clinical information managers who choose diagnoses from the Australian clinical version of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). The EDDC, on the other hand, has diagnoses recorded by medical, nursing or clerical personnel at the point of care. These personnel are not trained in clinical coding. The diagnoses are selected by keyword searching or tables of a limited set of diagnoses. The codes are assigned to the chosen diagnosis using tables built into the computer database program. |
| Coding | Historically, there were two different computer programs used in ACT Emergency Departments. From November 2022, a single system was introduced as part of the Digital Health Record introduction. Different programs use different classifications to record the diagnosis, including ICD-9, ICD-10, or SNOMED CT. Variation in computer programs and management practices at EDs may lead to variation in diagnosis coding practices. Some disease categories are not available in some programs but may be in others. If you intend analysing ED diagnoses, you need to determine the codes from each of these classifications that relate to the disease or symptom grouping to be studied. |
| Diagnostic Information | Symptoms can be, and often are, selected as diagnoses. Diagnoses can be very specific or very broad. For example, someone with the same symptoms might be assigned a diagnosis of "influenza" or "viral infection". |
| Links & Resources | Principal diagnosis short list | https://www.ihacpa.gov.au/health-care/classification/emergency-care/emergency-department-icd-10-am-principal-diagnosis-short-list |
| SACC Country of birth codes | https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/standard-australian-classification-countries-sacc/latest-release |
| Statistical Area Level 2 codes | https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/main-structure-and-greater-capital-city-statistical-areas/statistical-area-level-2 |
| SSLA codes | https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/DEDA554E1B6BB78BCA25791F000EEA26 |

# Variable Information

## Category: Demography

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ◆ | ATSIStatus | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status | INT | 1 | Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 2 | Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin |
| 3 | Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 4 | Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 9 | Not stated/inadequately described |
|  | AgeDays | Age in days where age in years is 0 | INT |  |  |
|  | AgeYrs | Age at admission in years | INT |  |  |
|  | CompensableStatus | Compensable Status | INT | 1 | Compensable |
| 2 | Non-compensable |
| 9 | Not stated/not known |
|  | CountryOfBirth | Country of birth | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | DVA | Department of Veterans affairs status | INT | 1 | Yes |
| 2 | No |
| 9 | Not stated/not known |
| ▲ | DateOfBirth | Date of birth | DATE |  |  |
|  | InsuranceStatus | Patient insurance status | INT | 1 | Hospital insurance |
| 2 | No hospital insurance |
| 9 | Not stated / not known |
|  | MaritalStatus | Marital Status - MeTEOR definition | INT | 1 | Never married |
| 2 | Widowed |
| 3 | Divorced |
| 4 | Separated |
| 5 | Married (registered and de facto) |
| 6 | Not stated/inadequately described |
|  | MentalHealthFlag | Mental health flag | INT | 0 | Not Mental Health |
| 1 | Mental Health |
|  | Sex | Sex | INT | 1 | Male |
| 2 | Female |
| 3 | Other |
| 9 | Not stated/inadequately described |
| ▲ | Degree of granularity subject to disclosure risk assessment | | | | |
| ◆ | Availability may be subject to AHMRC approval | | | | |

## Category: Dates & times (events)

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ▲ | AdmissionDateTime | APC admission date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | ClerkDateTime | Clerk date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | DoctorSeenDateTime | Doctor seen date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | EpisodeEndDateTime | Episode end date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
|  | FinancialYearInt | Financial Year | INT |  |  |
|  | LengthOfStay | Length of stay | INT |  |  |
| ▲ | PhysicalDepartureDateTime | Actual (physical) departure date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | PresentationDateTime | Presentation date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | SeenDateTime | Seen date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
| ▲ | TriageDateTime | Triage date and time | DATETIME |  |  |
|  | WaitTime | Waiting time (minutes) | INT |  |  |
|  | WaitTime\_Calc | Waiting time (calculated minutes) | INT |  |  |
| ▲ | Degree of granularity subject to disclosure risk assessment | | | | |

## Category: Presentation details

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | AdmittingWard | Admitting ward | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | DepartureStatusID | Departure status - PAS | INT | 1 | HOME |
| 2 | DIED IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT |
| 3 | TRANSFERRED TO OTHER HOSPITAL |
| 4 | DEPARTED: DID NOT WAIT (DNW) |
| 5 | ADMIT |
| 6 | WENT TO GP |
| 7 | REFERRED TO OTHER TCH SERVICE |
| 8 | LEFT AT OWN RISK BEFORE TREATMENT COMPLETED |
| 11 | DEAD ON ARRIVAL |
| 12 | A01 - NOT ADM - NOT TRANSFER (INCL HOME) |
| 13 | A12 - DIED IN ED |
| 14 | A08 - TRANSFER OTHER HOSP |
| 15 | A06 - DID NOT WAIT |
| 16 | A02 -ADMIT CALVARY PUBLIC |
| 19 | A10 - LEFT AT OWN RISK |
| 20 | A11 - DEAD ON ARRIVAL |
| 21 | A04 - HOSPITAL IN THE HOME- PUBLIC |
| 22 | A07 - ADMIT CALVARY/PRIVATE |
| 24 | A03 - SHORT STAY UNIT |
| 27 | A14 - CORRECTIONAL/POLICE |
| 28 | A15 - BIRTH SUITE ASSESSMENT >20 WKS GESTATION |
| 29 | A16 - TRANSFER TO TCH |
| 30 | A17 - TRANSFER TO JOHN JAMES HOSP |
| 31 | A18 - NATIONAL CAPITAL PRIVATE HOSPITAL |
|  | DepartureStatusMeteorValue | Departure Status Meteor | INT | 1 | Admitted to this hospital |
| 2 | Non-admitted patient ED service episode completed - departed without being admitted or referred to another hospital |
| 3 | Non-admitted patient ED service episode completed - referred to another hospital for admission |
| 4 | Did not wait to be attended by a health care professional |
| 5 | Left at own risk after being attended by a health care professional but before the non-admitted patient emergency department service episode was completed |
| 6 | Died in emergency department |
| 7 | Dead on arrival |
| 9 | Not stated/unknown |
| ◼ | EstablishmentID | Establishment or hospital | INT | 82 | Canberra Hospital and Health Services |
| 83 | Calvary Health Care ACT |
| ◼ | HospitalID | Hospital of service delivery | INT | 82 | Canberra Hospital and Health Services |
| 83 | Calvary Health Care ACT |
|  | LocalHospitalNetworkID | Local Hospital Network | INT | 801 | Australian Capital Territory |
|  | ReferralSource | Source of Referral | INT | 1 | LOCAL SPECIALIST (ACT) |
| 2 | LOCAL MEDICAL OFFICER (GP) |
| 3 | INTERHOSPITAL (ACT) |
| 4 | INTERSTATE HOSPITAL |
| 5 | POLICE |
| 6 | AMBULANCE |
| 7 | NOT REFERRED / SELF, FAMILY, FRIEND, NEIGHBOUR |
| 8 | TCH - OUT PATIENT CLINIC |
| 9 | DEPT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES |
| 10 | MENTAL HEALTH TEAM |
| 11 | RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE |
| 12 | HEALTH LINE/ HEALTH DIRECT |
| 16 | THE CANBERRA HOSPITAL |
| 17 | CALVARY PUBLIC HOSPITAL |
| 18 | WIC - Walk in Centre |
| 19 | HEALTH LINE |
| 20 | INTERSTATE HOSPITAL |
| 21 | INTERHOSPITAL (ACT) |
| 22 | ALLIED HEALTH |
|  | ReferralSource\_Historic | Source of referral - ACT defined (Historic) | INT | 1 | Self, family, friend, neighbour (Historic) |
| 2 | Community based specialist (Historic) |
| 3 | Outpatients (Historic) |
| 4 | Community based GP (Historic) |
| 5 | Residential aged care (Historic) |
| 6 | Other ACT hospital (Historic) |
| 7 | Non-ACT hospital (Historic) |
| 8 | Mental health team (Historic) |
| 9 | Community health centre or service (Historic) |
| 10 | Other community services (Historic) |
| 11 | Prison (Historic) |
| 12 | Police (Historic) |
| 13 | Ambulance (Historic) |
| 14 | Health First Call Centre (Historic) |
| 17 | Defence Hospital (Historic) |
| 18 | The Canberra Hospital (Historic) |
| 19 | Calvary Public Hospital (Historic) |
| 98 | Unspecified (Historic) |
| 99 | Other/unknown (Historic) |
|  | TransportMode | Transport mode to ED | INT | 1 | Ambulance, air ambulance or helicopter rescue service |
| 2 | Police/correctional services vehicle |
| 8 | Other |
| 9 | Not stated/unknown |
|  | TriageCategory | Funding source | INT | 1 | Resuscitation: Immediate (within seconds) |
| 2 | Emergency: Within 10 minutes |
| 3 | Urgent: Within 30 minutes |
| 4 | Semi-urgent: Within 60 minutes |
| 5 | Non-urgent: Within 120 minutes |
| 9 | Not stated/unknown |
|  | VisitType | Medicare status | INT | 1 | Emergency presentation |
| 2 | Returned visit, planned |
| 3 | Pre-arranged admission |
| 4 | Patient in transit - last used in 2018-19 ABF ED NBEDS |
| 5 | Dead on arrival |
| 9 | Not stated/unknown |
| ◼ | Availability subject to supporting hypothesis | | | | |

## Category: Diagnoses/Procedures

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Diagnosis1 | Diagnosis 1 | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | Diagnosis2 | Diagnosis 2 | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | Diagnosis3 | Diagnosis 3 | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | EDShortListCode | ED ICD-10 Shortlist code | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | ICD10AMEdition | ICD-10-AM Edition for Diagnosis and Procedures | INT |  |  |
|  | InjuryPoisonFlag | Injury poison flag | INT | 0 | Not Injury or poison |
| 1 | Injury or poison |

## Category: Event summaries

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | MDB | Major Diagnostic Block | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | UDG | Urgency Disposition Groups | INT | 1 | Adm\_T1 |
| 2 | Adm\_T2 |
| 3 | Adm\_T3 |
| 4 | Adm\_T4 |
| 5 | Adm\_T5 |
| 6 | N-A\_T1 |
| 7 | N-A\_T2 |
| 8 | N-A\_T3 |
| 9 | N-A\_T4 |
| 10 | N-A\_T5 |
| 11 | Did Not Wait |
| 12 | Dead on Arrival w any Triage w any MDB |
| 13 | Transfer presentation |
| 14 | Died in emergency department |
| 15 | Adm\_Return visit, planned w any Triage |
| 16 | N-A Return visit, planned - Triage 1, 2, 3 |
| 17 | N-A Return visit, planned - Triage 4,5 |
|  | UDGVersion | URG version | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | URG | Urgency Related Groups | VARCHAR | 003 | Adm\_T1\_Injury |
| 004 | Adm\_T1\_Poisoning/Toxic effects of drugs |
| 005 | Adm\_T1\_Respiratory system illness |
| 006 | Adm\_T1\_Circulatory system and Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 007 | Adm\_T1\_All other MDB groups |
| 009 | Adm\_T2\_Poisoning |
| 010 | Adm\_T2\_Injury |
| 011 | Adm\_T2\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 012 | Adm\_T2\_Respiratory system illness |
| 014 | Adm\_T2\_Neurological illness |
| 015 | Adm\_T2\_Toxic effects of drugs |
| 016 | Adm\_T2\_Circulatory system and Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 017 | Adm\_T2\_All other MDB groups |
| 019 | Adm\_T3\_Blood/Immune system illness & system infection/parasites |
| 020 | Adm\_T3\_Injury |
| 021 | Adm\_T3\_Neurological illness |
| 022 | Adm\_T3\_Obstetric/Gynaecological illness |
| 023 | Adm\_T3\_Digestive system illness |
| 024 | Adm\_T3\_Circulatory system illness and endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 025 | Adm\_T3\_Poisoning/Toxic effects of drugs |
| 026 | Adm\_T3\_Urological illness |
| 027 | Adm\_T3\_Respiratory system illness |
| 029 | Adm\_T3\_All other MDB groups |
| 030 | Adm\_T4\_Poisoning/Toxic effects of drugs |
| 031 | Adm\_T4\_Respiratory system illness |
| 032 | Adm\_T4\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 033 | Adm\_T4\_All other MDB groups |
| 034 | Adm\_T4\_Injury |
| 035 | Adm\_T4\_Social problem/Other presentation |
| 037 | Adm\_T5\_All other MDB groups 1 |
| 038 | Dead on Arrival w any Triage w any MDB |
| 039 | N-A\_T1\_All MDB groups |
| 040 | N-A\_T2\_Toxic effects of drugs |
| 043 | N-A\_T2\_Circulatory system / Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases |
| 044 | N-A\_T2\_Injury |
| 045 | N-A\_T2\_Poisoning |
| 046 | N-A\_T2\_All other MDB groups |
| 048 | N-A\_T3\_Circulatory system and Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 050 | N-A\_T3\_Injury |
| 051 | N-A\_T3\_Genitourinary illness |
| 052 | N-A\_T3\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 053 | N-A\_T3\_Neurological illness |
| 055 | N-A\_T3\_Respiratory system illness |
| 056 | N-A\_T3\_Musculoskeletal/connective tissue illness |
| 057 | N-A\_T3\_All other MDB groups |
| 058 | N-A\_T4\_Injury |
| 060 | N-A\_T4\_Urological system illness |
| 061 | N-A\_T4\_Circulatory system / Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 062 | N-A\_T4\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 063 | N-A\_T4\_Musculoskeletal/connective tissue illness |
| 065 | N-A\_T4\_Illness of the ENT |
| 066 | N-A\_T4\_Illness of the Eyes |
| 067 | N-A\_T4\_Other presentation block |
| 068 | N-A\_T4\_All other MDB groups |
| 069 | N-A\_T5\_Poisoning/Toxic effects of drugs |
| 070 | N-A\_T5\_Injury |
| 071 | N-A\_T5\_Other presentation block |
| 072 | N-A\_T5\_All other MDB groups |
| 073 | Did Not Wait |
| 074 | Transfer presentation\_1, 2 |
| 075 | Died in emergency department\_triage 1 |
| 076 | Adm\_Return visit, planned w any Triage |
| 077 | N-A Return visit, planned - Triage 1, 2 |
| 078 | N-A Return visit, planned - Triage 3-5 |
| 079 | Adm\_T1\_Psychiatric illness |
| 080 | Adm\_T2\_System infection/parasites |
| 081 | Adm\_T2\_Urological system illness |
| 082 | Adm\_T2\_Psychiatric illness |
| 083 | Adm\_T3\_Illness of eyes, ear, nose, throat |
| 084 | Adm\_T3\_Hepatobiliary system illness |
| 085 | Adm\_T3\_Psychiatric illness |
| 086 | Adm\_T4\_Circulatory system illness and Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic illness |
| 087 | Adm\_T4\_Illness of eyes, ear nose and throat |
| 088 | Adm\_T4\_Blood/immune system illness/system infection/parasites |
| 089 | Adm\_T4\_Gynaecological and Male reproductive system illness |
| 090 | Adm\_T4\_Psychiatric illness |
| 091 | Adm\_T5\_All other MDB groups 2 |
| 092 | Adm\_T5\_Injury |
| 093 | Adm\_T5\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 094 | Adm\_T5\_Psychiatric illness |
| 095 | N-A\_T2\_Respiratory system illness |
| 096 | N-A\_T2\_Urological system illness |
| 097 | N-A\_T2\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 098 | N-A\_T2\_Neurological illness |
| 099 | N-A\_T2\_Blood/immune system illness/system infection/parasites |
| 100 | N-A\_T2\_Psychiatric illness |
| 101 | N-A\_T3\_Poisoning |
| 102 | N-A\_T3\_Toxic effects of drugs |
| 103 | N-A\_T3\_Illness of eyes |
| 104 | N-A\_T3\_Blood/immune system illness/system infection/parasites |
| 105 | N-A\_T3\_Psychiatric illness |
| 106 | N-A\_T4\_Poisoning |
| 107 | N-A\_T4\_Toxic effects of drugs |
| 108 | N-A\_T4\_Respiratory system illness |
| 109 | N-A\_T4\_Blood/Immune system illness/System infection/parasites |
| 110 | N-A\_T4\_Obstetric and Newborn/Neonate |
| 111 | N-A\_T4\_Gynecological/Male reproductive system illness |
| 112 | N-A\_T4\_Psychiatric illness |
| 113 | N-A\_T5\_Circulatory system illness/Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases |
| 114 | N-A\_T5\_Gastrointestinal system and Digestive system illness |
| 115 | N-A\_T5\_Illness of the eyes, ear, nose and throat |
| 116 | N-A\_T5\_Illness of the skin, subcutaneous tissue, breast/Musculoskeletal/Connective tissue illness |
| 117 | N-A\_T5\_Blood/immune system illness/system infection/parasites |
| 118 | N-A\_T5\_Obstetric illness/Newborn/Neonate |
| 119 | N-A\_T5\_Genitourinary system illness |
| 120 | N-A\_T5\_Psychiatric illness |
| 121 | Transfer presentation\_3 |
| 122 | Transfer presentation\_4 |
| 123 | Transfer presentation\_5 |
| 124 | Died in emergency department\_triage 2-5 |
| 125 | Left at own risk\_1, 2 |
| 126 | Left at own risk\_3 |
| 127 | Left at own risk\_4 |
| 128 | Left at own risk\_5 |
| E3 | Error - Blank diagnosis code |
| E4 | Error - Invalid or unspecified diagnosis classification type |
| E5 | Error - Diagnosis code - No MDB map |
| E6 | Error - Type of visit not (1, 2, 3 or 5) |
| E8 | Error - Diagnosis code not recognised |
|  | URGandMDBVersion | URG and MDB version | VARCHAR |  |  |

## Category: Geography

|  | **Column** | **Column Description** | **Datatype** | **Code** | **Code Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ▲ | Postcode | Postcode | VARCHAR |  |  |
| ▲ | SA2Code | SA2 Code | VARCHAR |  |  |
| INT |  |  |
| ▲ | SSLA | State and statistical local area | INT |  |  |
| ▲ | Suburb | Suburb | VARCHAR |  |  |
|  | UResState | Usual State/Territory of residence | INT | 0 | Overseas or not stated |
| 1 | New South Wales |
| 2 | Victoria |
| 3 | Queensland |
| 4 | South Australia |
| 5 | Western Australia |
| 6 | Tasmania |
| 7 | Northern Territory |
| 8 | Australian Capital Territory |
| 9 | Other Territories |
| ▲ | Degree of granularity subject to disclosure risk assessment | | | | |

# General Enquiries

**Population Health Informatics**

Epidemiology Section

Data Analytics Branch

ACT Health Directorate

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Email:** | [healthinfo@act.gov.au](mailto:healthinfo@act.gov.au) |
| **Linkage request submission portal:** | <https://act-health.atlassian.net/servicedesk/customer/portal/20> |

# Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

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| Accessibility |
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