

Patients who are admitted from ED but are then transferred to another hospital/health service must also have the ED departure status recorded as 'transferred to another hospital'. The departure status of 'admitted' can only be applied to ED patients who complete their care within the same hospital.

The destination health service must be recorded with a valid establishment code from the [Establishment Code List](#).

7.4 Deceased in ED

If a patient that was being treated in the ED dies:

- the death must be recorded in the 'departure status'
- the time of death must be recorded as the patient's 'departure time'
- if the patient is pronounced 'dead on arrival' to the ED and no treatment or care was provided, an ED presentation (not attendance) must be recorded only. An administrative triage category must be recorded for 'dead on arrival'.

7.5 Admission from ED

When a patient requires admission from the ED the admission date and time to be recorded must be the date and time the patient physically left the ED to go to a designated short stay unit, inpatient ward or operating theatre/procedure room at the same hospital.

The decision to admit the patient and time must be documented in the patient's medical record by a medical practitioner.

7.5.1 ED short stay admissions

An ED SSU may also be known as Clinical Decision Unit, Emergency Observation Unit, Mental Health Observation Unit or Urgent Care Clinic. An SSU is a designated inpatient unit with all of the following characteristics²:

- are designated for the short-term treatment, observation, assessment and reassessment of patients initially seen (assessed and triaged) in the ED
- have specific admission and discharge criteria and procedures
- are designed for short term stays no longer than 24 hours
- are physically separate from the ED acute assessment area
- have a static number of available treatment spaces with oxygen, suction and patient ablution facilities
- are not a temporary ED overflow area, nor used to keep patients solely awaiting an inpatient bed, nor awaiting treatment in the ED.

Note: The SSU must not be used to avoid breaching a measured performance threshold.

Admissions to the SSU must meet the requirements for admission and specific admission criteria for ED Short Stay admissions. For further information on ED short stay admissions, refer to the [Admitted Patient Activity Data Business](#)

² [National Health Information Standard - ED SSU](#)

