

# Average time patients waited for first assessment in emergency department (ED)

## Alternate Name\*

Time to initial assessment in emergency

## INDICATOR DESCRIPTION

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### Description\*

This indicator measures average time elapsed from triage or registration (whichever is earlier) to initial assessment by a doctor, nurse-practitioner or dentist for all patients in the emergency department.

### HQO Reporting tool/product

Public reporting

### Dimension\*

Timely

### Type\*

Process

## DEFINITION AND SOURCE INFORMATION

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### Unit of Measurement\*

Hours

### Calculation Methods\*

Average wait time is calculated by dividing the total wait time for all patients by the total count of ED visits.

*Inclusion criteria:*

Unscheduled emergency visits with a valid and known registration time or triage time and a valid and known initial assessment time.

*Exclusion criteria:*

1. Cases where Registration date/time and Triage date/time are both blank/unknown
2. Cases where the MIS functional centre under Emergency Trauma, Observation, or Mental Health Services (as of January 2015 data)
3. Duplicate cases within the same functional centre where all ED data elements have the same values except for Abstract ID number
4. Cases where ED visit indicator is = "0" (i.e. scheduled ED visit)
5. When ONLY PIA date/time are completed:
  - Cases where PIA date/time are blank/unknown
  - Cases where time to PIA is greater than or equal to 100,000 minutes (1,666 hours)
  - Cases where PIA date/time is AFTER Disposition date/time or Patient left ED date/time
6. When ONLY NPIA date/time and service are complete:
  - Cases where NPIA date/time are blank/unknown
  - Cases where NPIA service are blank/unknown
  - Cases where NPIA service is NOT Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, or Dentist
  - Cases where NPIA is AFTER Disposition date/time or Patient left ED date/time
  - Cases where Time to PIA is great than or equal to 100,000 minutes (1,666 hours)
7. When PIA date/time and NPIA date/time and service are complete:
  - Cases where both PIA and NPIA date/time are blank/unknown
  - Cases where NPIA service is NOT Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, or Dentist
  - Cases where Time to PIA is greater than or equal to 100,000 minutes (1,666 hours)

**Numerator (short description i.e. not inclusions/exclusions)\***

NA

**Denominator (short description i.e. not inclusions/exclusions)\***

NA

**Adjustment (risk, age/sex standardization)- generalized**

None

**Data Source**

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)

**Data provided to HQO by**

Cancer Care Ontario (CCO)

**Reported Levels of comparability /stratifications (defined)**

Province

Time

Institution

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**OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

**Caveats and Limitations**

1. Scheduled visits to the ED are excluded from this indicator. 2. Patients who registered in the ED but left before being seen are not included

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**TAGS**

**TAGS\***

Acute Care/Hospital

Process

Wait Times

Timely

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)

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**PUBLISH**

**PUBLISH DATETIME\***

20/11/2018 15:43:00