

Glossary: Hospital discharge

Statistics Explained

A **discharge** from hospital is the formal release of a patient from a hospital after a procedure or course of treatment. A discharge occurs whenever a patient leaves hospital upon completion of treatment, signing out against medical advice, transferring to another healthcare institution, or on death. A discharge includes inpatients or day cases and healthy newborn babies should also be included. Discharges should exclude transfers to another department within the same institution.

Related concepts

- [Hospital](#)
- [Hospital bed](#)
- [In-patient](#)

Statistical data

- [Hospital discharges and length of stay statistics](#)