

Definition of non-urgent ED attendances

The definition and criteria for selecting non-urgent attendances followed a previous validated methodology published in 2017 by the same study authors.

The definition of non-urgent attendance used to identify NUAs in children was as follows:

1. Not investigated in ED (except by urinalysis, pregnancy test or dental investigation)
2. Not treated in ED (except by prescription, recording vital signs, dental treatment or guidance/advice)
3. Discharged completely from care in ED or referred to their GP

The criteria for identifying NUAs in children are detailed in Table A below.

The Table A: List of investigations and treatments identifying non-urgent ED attendances with corresponding HES A&E Codes.

Code	Investigation
24 or blank	None
06	Urinalysis
21	Pregnancy test
22	Dental investigation
Code	Treatment
07	Prescriptions
22	Guidance/advice only
30	Recording vital signs
56	Dental treatment
57	Prescription
99 or blank	None
Code	Disposal
02	Discharged – following treatment to be provided by GP
03	Discharged – did not require any follow-up treatment
12	Left department before being treated