

# Person with cancer—number of sentinel lymph nodes examined, total code N[NN]

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# Person with cancer—number of sentinel lymph nodes examined, total code N[NN]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Number of sentinel lymph nodes examined
METEOR identifier:	370558
Registration status:	<a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 06/03/2009
Definition:	The total number of a person's sentinel lymph nodes examined by the pathologist.
Data Element Concept:	<a href="#">Person with cancer—number of sentinel lymph nodes examined</a>
Value Domain:	<a href="#">Total lymph nodes code N[NN]</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N[NN]	
Maximum character length:	3	
	Value	Meaning
Supplementary values:	997	Number of lymph nodes unknown

## Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods:	For cancer registries, collection of this data item should only be from pathology reports relating to initial diagnosis and not for recurrent or metastatic tumour.
Comments:	Sentinel lymph nodes are the first nodes that filter fluid draining away from the area of cancer. The presence of cancer cells in the lymph nodes indicates that cancer cells have already spread outside the primary site and may have spread to other areas of the body. This is important for cancer staging and treatment options.

## Source and reference attributes

Origin:	National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre (NBOCC) Australasian Association of Cancer Registries (AACR) Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
Reference documents:	Johnson CH, Adamo M (eds.), SEER Program Coding and Staging Manual 2007. National Cancer Institute, NIH Publication number 07-5581, Bethesda, MD 2007.

## Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:	<a href="#">Breast cancer (Cancer registries) DSS</a> <a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 01/09/2012 <a href="#">Breast cancer (cancer registries) NBPDS</a> <a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 01/09/2012
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