

Person—sex, code A

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Person—sex, code A

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Sex (alphabetic code)
METEOR identifier:	602450
Registration status:	Commonwealth Department of Health , Retired 19/10/2023
Definition:	The biological distinction between male and female, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Person—sex
Value Domain:	Sex code A

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	String	
Format:	A	
Maximum character length:	1	
	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	M	Male
	F	Female
	I	Intersex or indeterminate
Supplementary values:	N	Not stated/inadequately described
	U	Unknown
	blank	Unknown

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	<p>Diagnosis and procedure codes should be checked against the national ICD-10-AM sex edits, unless the person is undergoing, or has undergone a sex change or has a genetic condition resulting in a conflict between sex and ICD-10-AM code.</p> <p>CODE I Intersex or indeterminate</p> <p>This code refers to a person who, because of a genetic condition, was born with reproductive organs or sex chromosomes that are not exclusively male or female or whose sex has not yet been determined for whatever reason.</p> <p>The use of 'Intersex or indeterminate' should be confirmed if reported for people aged 90 days or greater.</p>
Comments:	<p>The definition for Intersex in the 'Guide for use' section above is sourced from the ACT <i>Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003</i>.</p>

Source and reference attributes

Origin:	Australian Capital Territory 2003. <i>Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003</i> .
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Reference documents: *Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003*. See <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2003-14/20030328-4969/pdf/2003-14.pdf>.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods: Operationally, sex is the distinction between male and female, as reported by a person or as determined by an interviewer.

When collecting data on sex by personal interview, asking the sex of the respondent is usually unnecessary and may be inappropriate, or even offensive. It is usually a simple matter to infer the sex of the respondent through observation, or from other cues such as the relationship of the person(s) accompanying the respondent, or first name. The interviewer may ask whether persons not present at the interview are male or female.

A person's sex may change during their lifetime as a result of procedures known alternatively as sex change, gender reassignment, transsexual surgery, transgender reassignment or sexual reassignment. Throughout this process, which may be over a considerable period of time, the person's sex could be recorded as either Male or Female.

In data collections that use the ICD-10-AM classification, where sex change is the reason for admission, diagnoses should include the appropriate ICD-10-AM code(s) that clearly identify that the person is undergoing such a process. This code(s) would also be applicable after the person has completed such a process, if they have a procedure involving an organ(s) specific to their previous sex (e.g. where the patient has prostate or ovarian cancer).

CODE I Intersex or indeterminate

This code is normally used for babies for whom sex has not been determined for whatever reason.

Should not generally be used on data collection forms completed by the respondent.

Should only be used if the person or respondent volunteers that the person is intersex or where it otherwise becomes clear during the collection process that the individual is neither male nor female.

CODE N Not stated/inadequately described

This code is not to be used on primary collection forms. It is primarily for use in administrative collections when transferring data from data sets where the item has not been collected.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Department of Health

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

See also [Person—gender, code N](#)
[Indigenous](#), Standard 05/09/2014

See also [Person—sex, code N](#)
[Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 25/08/2005
[Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018
[Health](#), Superseded 11/05/2017
[Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006
[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 16/10/2017
[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
[Youth Justice](#), Superseded 23/08/2022

See also [Person—sex, code X](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018
[Health](#), Superseded 15/02/2022
[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/08/2023
[Youth Justice](#), Superseded 23/08/2022

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Medicare Benefits Schedule \(MBS\) state/territory data extract 2013-14](#)
[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2013
Implementation end date: 30/06/2014
DSS specific information:

Variable name = PINSEX

[Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\) state/territory data extract 2013-14](#)
[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2013
Implementation end date: 30/06/2014
DSS specific information:

Variable name = PAT_SEX

In the context of PBS data, this data item is defined as being 'the gender of the consumer as held in the entitlement tables at the time the PBS claim was archived'.

Strictly speaking, gender is a social/cultural concept rather than a biological (anatomical or chromosomal) concept, although for most people the two concepts are the same.

Implementation in Indicators:

Used as Numerator

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of colonoscopy hospitalisations per 100,000 people, 2016-17](#)
[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of gastroscopy hospitalisations per 100,000 people, 2016-17](#)
[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for cardiac stress tests and imaging per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)
[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for myocardial perfusion scans per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)
[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised](#)

[services for neck ultrasound per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for standard echocardiography per 100,000 population aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for stress echocardiography per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for thyroid function tests per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for thyroid stimulating hormone tests per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for ADHD medicines per 100,000 people, aged 17 years and under, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for amoxicillin per 100,000 people, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for amoxicillin-clavulanate per 100,000 people, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for antibiotic medicines per 100,000 children aged 9 years and under, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for antimicrobials per 100,000 people, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for antipsychotic medicines per 100,000 people, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 \(i\) Age 17 years & under, \(ii\) Age 18 - 64 years, \(iii\) Age 65 years & over](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for opioid medicines per 100,000 people, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for proton pump inhibitor medicines per 100,000 people aged \(i\) 18 years and over, \(ii\) 1 year and under, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of thyroidectomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2014-15 to 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018](#)

[Number of lumbar spinal decompression \(excluding lumbar spinal fusion\) hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of lumbar spinal fusion \(excluding lumbar spinal decompression\) hospitalisations per 100,000 people, aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of lumbar spinal fusion \(with or without lumbar spinal decompression\) hospitalisations per 100,000 people, aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of MBS-subsidised services for gastroscopy per 100,000 people aged 18-54 years, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of MBS-subsidised services for repeat colonoscopy per 100,000 people of all ages, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of MBS-subsidised services for repeat gastroscopy per 100,000 people of all ages, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of myringotomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of myringotomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of myringotomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 27/04/2021](#)

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for amoxicillin per 100,000 people, 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 22/09/2020](#)

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for amoxicillin-clavulanate per 100,000 people, 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 22/09/2020](#)

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for antimicrobials per 100,000 people, 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 22/09/2020](#)

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for antipsychotic medicines per 100,000 people, aged 65 years and over, 2016-17 to 2020-21](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 15/09/2022](#)

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for opioid medicines per 100,000 people, all ages 2016-17 to 2020-21](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
15/09/2022

[Number of PBS/RPBS prescriptions dispensed for proton pump inhibitor medicines per 100,000 people aged 75 years and over, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of people dispensed five or more medicines per 100,000 people aged 75 years and over, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of people who had at least one medication management review, per 100,000 people aged 75 years and over, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of potentially preventable hospitalisations - cellulitis per 100,000 people of all ages, 2014-15 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of potentially preventable hospitalisations - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\) per 100,000 people of all ages, 2014-15 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of potentially preventable hospitalisations - diabetes complications per 100,000 people of all ages, 2014-15 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of potentially preventable hospitalisations - heart failure per 100,000 people, of all ages, 2014-15 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of potentially preventable hospitalisations - kidney and urinary tract infections per 100,000 people of all ages, 2014-15 to 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of tonsillectomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of tonsillectomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Number of tonsillectomy hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 17 years and under, 2012-13, 2015-16 and 2017-18](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

Used as Disaggregation

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of colonoscopy hospitalisations per 100,000 people, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of gastroscopy hospitalisations per 100,000 people, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
13/12/2018

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for thyroid function tests per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard

13/12/2018

[Indigenous Better Cardiac Care measure: 1.1-Annual health assessments, 2016](#)
[Health](#), Standard 17/08/2017

[Indigenous Better Cardiac Care measure: 2.1-Cardiac-related diagnostic tests, 2016](#)

[Health](#), Standard 17/08/2017

[Indigenous Better Cardiac Care measure: 4.2-Chronic disease management, 2016](#)

[Health](#), Standard 17/08/2017

[Number of MBS-subsidised services for gastroscopy per 100,000 people aged 18-54 years, 2018-19](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 27/04/2021