

Injury event—nature of main injury, non-admitted patient code NN{.N}

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Nature of main injury (non-admitted patient)
METEOR identifier:	268947
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 01/03/2005
Definition:	The nature of the injury chiefly responsible for the attendance of the non-admitted patient at the health care facility, at represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Injury event—nature of main injury

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	String
Format:	NN{.N}
Maximum character length:	4

Permissible values:

Value	Meaning
01	Superficial (excludes eye injury code 13)
02	Open wound (excludes eye injury code 13)
03	Fracture (excludes dental injury code 21)
04	Dislocation (includes ruptured disc, cartilage, ligament)
05	Sprain or strain
06	Injury to nerve (includes spinal cord; excludes intracranial injury code 20)
07	Injury to blood vessel
08	Injury to muscle or tendon
09	Crushing injury
10	Traumatic amputation (includes partial amputation)
11	Injury to internal organ
12	Burn or corrosion (excludes eye injury code 13)
13	Eye injury (includes burns, excludes foreign body in external eye code 14.1)
14.1	Foreign body in external eye
14.2	Foreign body in ear canal
14.3	Foreign body in nose
14.4	Foreign body in respiratory tract (excludes foreign body in nose code 14.3)
14.5	Foreign body in alimentary tract
14.6	Foreign body in genitourinary tract
14.7	Foreign body in soft tissue
14.9	Foreign body, other/unspecified
20	Intracranial injury (includes concussion)
21	Dental injury (includes fractured tooth)
22	Drowning, immersion
23	Asphyxia or other threat to breathing (excludes drowning immersion code 22)
24	Electrical injury
25	Poisoning, toxic effect (excludes effect of venom, or any insect bite code 26)
26	Effect of venom, or any insect bite
27	Other specified nature of injury
28	Injury of unspecified nature
29	Multiple injuries of more than one 'nature'
30	No injury detected

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

If the full ICD-10-AM code is used to code the injury, this metadata item is not required (see metadata items principal diagnosis and additional diagnosis) When coding to the full ICD-10-AM code is not possible, use this metadata item with the items external cause of injury-non admitted patient, external cause of injury-human intent and bodily location of main injury.

Select the code which best characterises the nature of the injury chiefly responsible for the attendance, on the basis of the information available at the time it is recorded. If two or more categories are judged to be equally appropriate, select the one that comes first in the code list. A major injury, if present, should always be coded rather than a minor injury. If a major injury has been sustained (e.g. a fractured femur), along with one or more minor injuries (e.g. some small abrasions), the major injury should be coded in preference to coding 'multiple injuries'. As a general guide, an injury which, on its own, would be unlikely to have led to the attendance may be regarded as 'minor'.

If the nature of the injury code is 01 to 12 or 26 to 29 then the metadata item Bodily location of main injury should be used to record the bodily location of the injury. If another code is used, bodily location is implicit or meaningless. Bodily location of main injury, category 22 may be used as a filler to indicate that specific body region is not required.

Comments:

Injury diagnosis is necessary for purposes including epidemiological research, casemix studies and planning. This metadata item together with the metadata item bodily location of the main injury indicates the diagnosis.

This metadata item is related to the ICD-10-AM injury and poisoning classification. However, coding to the full ICD-10-AM injury and poisoning classification (see metadata item principal diagnosis) is not available in most settings where basic injury surveillance is undertaken. This item, in combination with the metadata item Bodily location of main injury, is a practicable alternative. Data coded to the full ICD-10-AM codes can be aggregated to match this item, facilitating data comparison. Further information on the national injury surveillance program can be obtained from the National Injury Surveillance Unit, Flinders University, Adelaide.

Source and reference attributes


Submitting organisation:

National Injury Surveillance Unit, Flinders University, Adelaide

National Data Standards for Injury Surveillance Advisory Group

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes  [Nature of main injury - non-admitted patient, version 1, DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (22.3 KB) *No registration status*

See also [Person—bodily location of main injury, code NN](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Incomplete 23/07/2012

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Injury surveillance DSS Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2008

DSS specific information:

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[Injury surveillance DSS Health](#), Superseded 14/12/2009

DSS specific information:

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[Injury surveillance DSS 2010-13 Health](#), Superseded 02/05/2013

Implementation start date: 01/07/2010

Implementation end date: 30/06/2013

DSS specific information:

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[Injury surveillance NBPDS 2013- Health](#), Standard 02/05/2013

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

DSS specific information:

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[Injury surveillance NMDS Health](#), Superseded 03/05/2006

Implementation start date: 01/07/2005

Implementation end date: 30/06/2006

DSS specific information:

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[Injury surveillance NMDS Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2005

DSS specific information:

Left justified, zero filled.

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