

Person—eligibility status, Medicare code N

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

Person—eligibility status, Medicare code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Medicare eligibility status
METEOR identifier:	270093
Registration status:	Health , Superseded 29/11/2006
Definition:	An indicator of a person's eligibility for Medicare services as specified under the Commonwealth Health Insurance Act 1973, as represented by a code.
Context:	Admitted patient care: To facilitate analyses of hospital utilisation and policy relating to health care financing.
Data Element Concept:	Person—eligibility status
Value Domain:	Medicare eligibility status code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N	
Maximum character length:	1	
	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Eligible
	2	Not eligible
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/unknown

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

An eligible person includes a person who resides in Australia and is one of the following:

- an Australian citizen
- a permanent resident
- a New Zealand citizen
- a temporary resident who has applied for permanent residency and who has either an authority to work in Australia or an immediate family member who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- a person, or class of persons, who has been declared eligible for Medicare for the purposes of the Health Insurance Act 1973.

Other persons, as temporary residents, who are fully eligible for Medicare include:

- a person who is a head or member of a diplomatic mission or consular post or is a member of such a person's family, where there is a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) in place between Australia and the country they represent (currently United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, the Netherlands, Malta, Italy, Sweden and Finland) - with the exception of New Zealand diplomats.

Other persons, as visitors or temporary residents, who are eligible for Medicare, in certain circumstances, include:

- persons who are visiting Australia and are eligible persons because there is a RHCA in place between Australia and their usual country of residence (currently United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, the Netherlands, Malta (eligibility limited to 6 months), Italy (eligibility limited to 6 months), Sweden, Finland and New Zealand - it should be noted that the RHCA with New Zealand and the Republic of Ireland limits the access to medical services for their residents to that of public patients in public hospitals) - with the exception of New Zealand diplomats.

With respect to hospital services, persons covered by an RHCA (except RHCA diplomats as they have full Medicare eligibility) are eligible only as public patients in a public hospital and are ineligible persons if they are admitted as a private patient in either a public or a private hospital;

It should also be noted that some patients can be both an 'eligible person' and either personally or a third party liable for the payment of charges for hospital services received; for example:

- prisoners
- patients with Defence Force personnel entitlements
- compensable patients
- Department of Veterans' Affairs beneficiaries
- Nursing Home Type Patients.

Newborn babies take the eligibility status of the mother.

Comments:

Commencing with Version 9.0 of the National Health Data Dictionary, three separate metadata items are recorded in the Dictionary:


- Elected accommodation status
- Medicare eligibility status
- Compensable status.

This is because each metadata item relates to a separate concept and requires separate information to be reported. These three items replace the previous metadata items Patient accommodation eligibility status and Compensable status.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Has been superseded by [Person—eligibility status, Medicare code N Health](#), Superseded 04/07/2007

Is re-engineered from  [Medicare eligibility status, version 1, DE, NHDD, NHMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (18.2 KB)
No registration status

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Admitted patient care NMDS](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2005
Implementation start date: 01/07/2005
Implementation end date: 30/06/2006

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2006-07](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 23/10/2006
Implementation start date: 01/07/2006
Implementation end date: 30/06/2007