

Community nursing service episode—nursing intervention, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Nursing interventions
METEOR identifier:	270223
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 01/03/2005
Definition:	The nursing action intended to relieve or alter a person's responses to actual or potential health problems, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Community nursing service episode—nursing intervention

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code																				
Data type:	Number																				
Format:	N																				
Maximum character length:	1																				
Permissible values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Coordination and collaboration of care</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Supporting informal carers</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>General nursing care</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Technical nursing treatment or procedure</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Counselling and emotional support</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Teaching/education</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>Monitoring and surveillance</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>Formal case management</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>Service needs assessment only</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Coordination and collaboration of care	2	Supporting informal carers	3	General nursing care	4	Technical nursing treatment or procedure	5	Counselling and emotional support	6	Teaching/education	7	Monitoring and surveillance	8	Formal case management	9	Service needs assessment only
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Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	The following definitions are to assist in coding: CODE 1 Coordination and collaboration of care This code occurs when there are multiple care deliverers. The goal of coordination and collaboration is the efficient, appropriate integrated delivery of care to the person. Tasks which may be involved include: liaison, advocacy, planning, referral, information and supportive discussion and/or education. Although similar in nature to formal case management this intervention is not the one formally recognised by specific funding (see Code 8). CODE 2 Supporting information carers This code includes activities, which the nurse undertakes to assist the carer in the
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delivery of the carer's role. This does not include care given directly to the person. Examples of tasks involved in supporting the carer include: counselling, teaching, informing, advocacy, coordinating, and grief or bereavement support.

CODE 3 General nursing care

This code includes a broad range of activities, which the nurse performs to directly assist the person; in many cases, this assistance will focus on activities of daily living. This assistance will help a person whose health status, level of dependency, and/or therapeutic needs are such that nursing skills are required. Examples of tasks include: assistance with washing, grooming and maintaining hygiene, dressing, pressure area care, assistance with toileting, bladder and bowel care, assistance with mobility and therapeutic exercise, attention to physical comfort and maintaining a therapeutic environment.

CODE 4 Technical nursing treatment or procedure

This code refers to technical tasks and procedures for which nurses receive specific training and which require nursing knowledge of expected therapeutic effect, possible side-effects, complications and appropriate actions related to each. Some examples of technical care activities are: medication administration (including injections), dressings and other procedures, venipuncture, monitoring of dialysis, and implementation of pain management technology.

CODE 5 Counselling and emotional support

This code focuses on non-physical care given to the person, which aims to address the affective, psychological and/or social needs. Examples of these include: bereavement, well being, decision-making support and values-clarification.

CODE 6 Teaching/education

This code refers to providing information and/or instruction about a specific body of knowledge and/or procedure, which is relevant to the person's situation. Examples of teaching areas include: disease process, technical procedure, health maintenance, health promotion and techniques for coping with a disability.

CODE 7 Monitoring and surveillance

This code refers to any action by which the nurse evaluates and monitors physical, behavioural, social and emotional responses to disease, injury, and nursing or medical interventions.

CODE 8 Formal case management

This code refers to the specific formal service, which is funded to provide case management for a person. Note that coordination and collaboration of care (Code 1) is not the same as formal case management.

CODE 9 Service needs assessment only

This code is for assessment of the person when this is the only activity carried out and no further nursing care is given; for example, assessment for ongoing care and/or inappropriate referrals. Selection of this option means that no other intervention may be nominated. Thus, if an assessment for the domiciliary care benefit is the reason for a visit, but other interventions such as, counselling and support; coordination/collaboration of care are carried out, then the assessment only is not an appropriate code.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Up to eight codes may be selected. If Code 9 is selected no other nursing interventions are collected. If Code 9 is selected then code 07 in Community nursing service episode—goal of care, code NN must also be selected.

Collection methods: Collect on continuing basis throughout the episode in the event of data collection that occurs prior to discharge. Up to eight codes may be collected. Within a computerised information system the detailed activities can be mapped to the Community Nursing Minimum Data Set Australia (CNMDSA) interventions enabling the option of a rich level of detail of activities or summarised information.

Comments: For the purposes of the CNMDSA, the interventions are not necessarily linked to each nursing problem, nor are they specific tasks, but rather, broader-level intervention categories focusing on the major areas of a person's need. These summary categories subsume a range of specific actions or tasks.

The CNMDSA nursing interventions are summary information overlying the detailed nursing activity usually included in an agency data collection. They are not intended as a description of nursing activities in the CNMDSA. For instance, 'technical nursing treatment' or 'procedure' is the generic term for a broad range of nursing activities such as medication administration and wound care management.

Collection of this information at discharge carries with it the expectation that nursing records will lend themselves to this level of summarisation of the care episode. The selection of eight interventions if more are specified is a potentially subjective task unless the nursing record is structured and clear enough to enable such a selection against the reasons for admission to care, and the major focus of care delivery. Clearly, the task is easier if ongoing automated recording of interventions within an agency information system enables discharge reporting of all interventions and their frequency, over a care episode.

Those agencies providing allied health services may wish to use the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Interventions developed in conjunction with the National Centre for Classification in Health in addition to the CNMDSA data element Nursing interventions or other more relevant code sets.


To enable analysis of the interventions within an episode of care, in relation to the outcome of this care, especially when linked with information on the diagnosis and goals. The recording of nursing interventions is critical information for health service monitoring and planning. It is a major descriptor of the care provided throughout an episode.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Council of Community Nursing Services

Origin: Australian Council of Community Nursing Services 1997. Community Nursing Minimum Data Set Australia (CNMDSA), version 2.0: data dictionary and guidelines. Melbourne: ACCNS

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes  [Nursing interventions, version 2, DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (24.2 KB) *No registration status*