

# Person—cataract status, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Cataract - history
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	270252
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 01/03/2005</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	Whether the individual has a cataract present in either or both eyes or has had a cataract previously removed from either or both eyes, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—cataract status</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code										
<b>Data type:</b>	Number										
<b>Format:</b>	N										
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1										
<b>Permissible values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from the right eye</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from the left eye</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from both eyes</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>No cataract present or has not been previously removed from either eye</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from the right eye	2	Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from the left eye	3	Cataract currently present or has been previously removed from both eyes	4	No cataract present or has not been previously removed from either eye
Value	Meaning										
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<b>Supplementary values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>9</td><td>Not stated/inadequately described</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	9	Not stated/inadequately described						
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## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

<b>Collection methods:</b>	<p>Examination of the lens of the eye through a dilated pupil (visible through the pupil by the use of an ophthalmoscope) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist, as a part of the ophthalmological assessment.</p> <p>Ask the individual if he/she has a cataract in either or both eyes or has had a cataract removed from either or both eyes previously. Alternatively obtain information from an ophthalmologist or optometrist or from appropriate documentation.</p>
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**Comments:**

Cataract is a clouding of the lens of the eye or its capsule sufficient to reduce vision. The formation of cataract occurs more rapidly in patients with a history of ocular trauma, uveitis, or diabetes mellitus. Cataract is an associated diabetic eye problem that could lead to blindness.

Regular eye checkups are important for patients suffering from diabetes mellitus. This helps to early detect abnormalities and to avoid or postpone vision-threatening complications. A comprehensive ophthalmological examination includes:


- check visual acuity with Snellen chart -correct with pinhole if indicated
- examine for cataract
- examine fundi with pupils dilated.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Diabetes Data Working Group

**Origin:** National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes  [Cataract - history, version 1, DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (16.4 KB) *No registration status*

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Diabetes \(clinical\) DSSHealth](#), Superseded 21/09/2005

[Diabetes \(clinical\) NBPDSHealth](#), Standard 21/09/2005

[Diabetes \(clinical\) NBPDSHealth](#), Recorded 15/05/2017