
Record linkage

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NCSDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000532 Version number: 2
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT
Admin status: SUPERSEDED Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: A process, technique or method that enables the bringing together of two or more records that are believed to belong to the same individual.
Linkage can occur across data systems or within data systems and may be done by using a range of identifiers.
Context: Record linkage may facilitate improved service provision, treatment or case management to individual clients. For statistical purposes, including planning, research or the measurement of service or program outcomes, record linkage facilitates separating multiple items clustered around individuals from total counts (for example, double counting of clients can be reduced when calculating total numbers of clients across several agencies).

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:
Related metadata: relates to the data element Estimated date flag version 1
 relates to the data element Family name version 2
 relates to the data element Given name(s) version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services 1998.
Home and Community Care (HACC) Data Dictionary Version 1.0.
Canberra: DHFS.
Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Comments: The proposed use of a linkage key in the HACC Minimum Data Set is intended to make it possible to count the number of HACC clients (without counting clients more than once) and the services which they receive. The Commonwealth State/territory Disability

Agreement National Minimum Data Set is using the statistical linkage key based on that for the HACC MDS.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM Agency role

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
