
Relationship of carer to care recipient

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: 000585 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: The relationship of the carer to the person for whom they care.
Context: Resource and service planning:
Information about this relationship assists in the establishment of a profile of informal caring relationships and the assistance provided (such as by the HACC program) to maintain and support those relationships. As such it increases knowledge about the dynamics of caring and provides an insight into the gender and inter-generational patterns of informal care giving in the community.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Spouse/ partner
 2 Parent
 3 Child
 4 Child-in-law
 5 Other relative
 6 Friend/ neighbour
 9 Not stated/inadequately described

Guide For Use: This data element should always be used to record the relationship of the carer to the person for whom they care, regardless of whether the client of the agency is the carer or the person for whom they care.
For example, if a woman were caring for her frail aged mother-in-

law, the agency would record that the carer is the daughter-in-law of the care recipient (ie code 4). Similarly, if a man were caring for his disabled son, then the agency would record that the carer is the father of the care recipient (ie code 2).

If a person has more than one carer (eg a spouse and a son), the coding response to Relationship of carer to care recipient should relate to the carer who provides the most significant care and assistance related to the person's capacity to remain living at home. The expressed views of the client and/ or their carer or significant other should be used as the basis for determining which carer should be considered to be the primary or principal carer in this regard.

Code 1 includes defacto and same sex partnerships.

Collection Methods: To obtain greater detailed information about carers data can be collected using other elements such as 'Age' and 'Sex' etc.

Related metadata: relates to the data element concept Informal carer version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: Home and Community Care (HACC) Data Dictionary Version 1.0, 1998

Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Comments: There is inconsistency between the definition of 'Informal carer' with the ABS definition of 'Principal carer'.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM Carer role

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
