
Laterality of primary cancer

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: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000774 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
 Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: Laterality describes which side of a paired organ is the origin of the primary cancer. Each side of a paired organ is considered separately and described as lateral when occurring unless a physician determines that it is bilateral.

A paired organ is one in which there are two separate organs of the same kind, one on either side of the body (e.g. kidney, breast, ovary, testis and lung).

Context: This information is collected for the purpose of differentiating the site of the primary cancer.

For example, a woman may present with a primary cancer in the left breast. She may return at a later stage with a new primary cancer in the right breast.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1

Data Domain: 1	Left
2	Right
3	Bilateral (Note: Bilateral cancers are very rare)
9	Not known
NOVAL	Not applicable

Guide For Use: The valid International Classification of Diseases for Oncology

values for the variable are provided in the list below:

1 Left:

Origin of primary site is on the left side of a paired organ
Paired organs are: Breast (C50), Lung (C34), Kidney (C64), Ovary (C56), Eyes (C69), Arms (C76.4, C44.6, C49.1, C47.1, C40.0, C77.3), Legs (C76.5, C44.7, C49.2, C47.2, C40.2, C77.4), Ears (C44.2, C49.0, C30.1), Testicles (C62), Parathyroid glands (C75.0), Adrenal glands (C74.9, C74.0, C74.1), Tonsils (C09.9, C02.4, C11.1, C09.0, C09.1, C03.9), Ureter (C66.9), Carotid body (C75.4), Vas deferens (C63.1), Optic nerve (C72.3).

2 Right:

Origin of primary site is on the right side of a paired organ.

3 Bilateral:

Includes organs that are bilateral as a single primary (e.g. bilateral retinoblastoma (M9510/3, C69.2), (M9511/3, C69.2), (M9512/3, C69.2), (C69.6, C48.0), bilateral Wilms tumours (C64.9, M8960/3)).

9 Unknown:

It is unknown whether, for a paired organ the origin of the cancer was on the left or right side of the body.

Collection Methods: This information should be obtained from the patient's pathology report, the patient's medical record, or the patient's medical practitioner/nursing staff.

Related metadata: is qualified by Primary site of cancer version 1

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, Second Edition

Source Organisation: World Health Organization

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Service provision event

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

DSS - Cancer (clinical) From 04-Jun-04 to
