Environmental factors

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NCSDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000565   Version number: 2

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration Authority: NCSIMG   Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: Environmental factors make up the physical, social and attitudinal environment in which people live and conduct their lives. Environmental factors are external to the individual and can have a positive or negative influence on a person's participation as a member of society, on performance of activities, or on a person's body function or structure.

Context: Environmental factors represent the circumstances in which the individual lives. These factors are conceived as immediate (e.g. physical features of the environment, social environment) and societal (formal and informal social structures, services and systems). Different environments may have a very different impact on the same individual with a given health condition.
Facilitators are features of the environment that have a positive effect on disability. Barriers are features of the environment that have a negative effect on disability.
This data element, in conjunction with 'Environmental factors-extent of influence', may be used in health, community services and other disability-related data collections to record the environmental factors that facilitate or inhibit optimum functioning at the body, person or societal level. Identification of environmental factors may assist in determining appropriate interventions to support the person to achieve optimum functioning.
'Environmental factors' is one of three components that define the concept 'Disability'. 'Body functions and structures' and 'Activities and participation domains' are the other two components.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational form: CODE

Representation layout:	N(.NN)	
Minimum Size:	1	
Maximum Size:	4	
Data Domain:	1	Products and technology
	1.11	Products or substances for personal consumption
	1.12	Products and technology for personal use in daily living
	1.13	Products and technology for personal and indoor mobility and transportation
	1.14	Products and technology for communication
	1.15	Products and technology for education
	1.16	Products and technology for employment
	1.17	Products and technology for culture, recreation and sport
	1.18	Products and technology for the practice of religion and spirituality
	1.19	Design, construction and building products and technology of buildings for public use
	1.20	Design, construction and building products and technology of buildings for private use
	1.21	Products and technology of land development
	1.22	Assets
	2	Natural environment and human-made changes to environment
	2.11	Physical geography
	2.12	Population
	2.13	Flora and fauna
	2.14	Climate
	2.15	Natural events
	2.16	Human-caused events
	2.17	Light
	2.18	Time-related changes
	2.19	Sound
	2.20	Vibration
	2.21	Air quality
	3	Support and relationships
	3.11	Immediate family
	3.12	Extended family
	3.13	Friends
	3.14	Acquaintances, peers, colleagues, neighbours and community members
	3.15	People in positions of authority
	3.16	People in subordinate positions
	3.17	

	Personal care providers and personal assistants
3.18	Strangers
3.19	Domesticated animals
3.20	Health professionals
3.21	Other professionals
4	Attitudes
4.11	Individual attitudes of immediate family members
4.12	Individual attitudes of extended family members
4.13	Individual attitudes of friends
4.14	Individual attitudes of acquaintances, peers, colleagues, neighbours and community members
4.15	Individual attitudes of people in positions of authority
4.16	Individual attitudes of people in subordinate positions
4.17	Individual attitudes of personal care providers and personal assistants
4.18	Individual attitudes of strangers
4.19	Individual attitudes of Health professionals
4.20	Individual attitudes of other professionals
4.21	Societal attitudes
4.22	Social norms, practices and ideologies
5	Services, systems and policies
5.11	Services, systems and policies for the production of consumer goods
5.12	Architecture and construction services, systems and policies
5.13	Open space planning services, systems and policies
5.14	Housing services, systems and policies
5.15	Utilities services, systems and policies
5.16	Communication services, systems and policies
5.17	Transportation services, systems and policies
5.18	Civil protection services, systems and policies
5.19	Legal services, systems and policies
5.20	Associations and organisational services, systems and policies
5.21	Media services, systems and policies
5.22	Economic services, systems and policies
5.23	Social security services, systems and policies
5.24	General social support services, systems and policies
5.25	Health services, systems and policies
5.26	Education and training services, systems and policies
5.27	Labour and employment services, systems and

	policies
5.28	Political services, systems and policies

Guide For Use: The environmental factors classification is a neutral list of environmental factors. It can be used to denote environmental facilitators or barriers by also recording 'Environmental factors-extent of influence'.

Collection Methods: There are numerous possible methods for collecting environmental factors. Information can be collected on:
- all environmental factors;
- environmental factors of particular relevance;
- a number of environmental factors, prioritised according to specified criteria;
- one environmental factor per person; or
- record environmental factors for each recorded body function, body structure, and activities and participation.
Either 1-digit headings (such as Code 3 Support and relationships) or 2-level categories (such as Code 3.11 Immediate family) may be recorded.

Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Environmental factors version 1
relates to the data element concept Family version 2
relates to the data element concept Disability version 2
relates to the data element concept Functioning version 1
relates to the data element concept Activity - functioning, disability and health version 1
relates to the data element concept Participation - functioning, disability and health version 1
relates to the data element concept Assistance with activities and participation version 1

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: World Health Organization (WHO) 2001. ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2003. ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0. Canberra: AIHW.

Source Organisation: World Health Organization

Comments: 'Environmental factors' is one of three components in the ICF that define disability. The ICF was endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2001 and is a core member of the WHO family of health related classifications. Further information on the ICF can be found in the ICF itself and the ICF Australian User Guide (AIHW 2003) and the following websites:

- Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website
http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.html
- WHO ICF website:
http://www3.who.int/icf/icftemplate.cfm

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM   Environment

Data Agreements which include this Data Element