# Referral—referral source, code N[.N]



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# Referral—referral source, code N[.N]

# Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Element
Short name: Referral source

METEOR identifier: 297469

**Registration status:** Community Services (retired), Standard 02/06/2005

**Definition:** The person or agency responsible for the referral of a client to a service provider

agency, as represented by a code.

Context: Source of referral is important in assisting in the analyses of inter-service client flow

and for service planning.

Data Element Concept: Referral—referral source

Value Domain: Source of community service referral code N[.N]

### Value domain attributes

# Representational attributes

Representation class: Code

Data type: Number

Format: N[.N]

Maximum character length: 2

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Agency
	1.1	Health agency
	1.2	Community services agency
	1.3	Educational agency
	1.4	Legal agency
	1.5	Employment/ job placement agency
	1.6	Other agency
	2	Non-agency
	2.1	Self
	2.2	Family
	2.3	Friends
	2.4	General Medical Practitioner
	2.5	Other party
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

# Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Individual data collections use specific categories relevant to their particular information needs. These categories should be mappable to the above generic domain at the 1-digit or 2-digit level.

The separation of agency from non-agency for source of referral is a significant distinction. For instance, it is important to differentiate between a referral from a private practising general medical practitioner and a referral from a health agency, such as a health clinic in a hospital.

### Examples:

- Aged care assessment team would map to category 1.1
- Residential aged care factor to category 1.1
- Community nursing service to category 1.1
- School/other education institution to category 1.3
- General Practitioner to category 2.4
- Police/legal unit to category 1.4 etc.

### Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods: Individual collections may like to expand categories further for example, by

distinguishing between immediate family and non-immediate family.

In addition, this item may be collected at the point of initial contact with an agency, or for other contact points as well, for the agency as a whole, or for different

services provided by that agency.

### Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) National Data Collection

Agency 2001. National Data Collection Data Dictionary. Version 2. Unpublished

### Relational attributes

Related metadata

references:

Supersedes Referral—referral source (community services), code N[.N]

Community Services (retired), Superseded 06/06/2005

Implementation in Data Set Home and Community Care MDS 2009

**Specifications:** 

Community Services (retired), Recorded 16/11/2009

Implementation start date: 11/05/2006