Referral—referral source, code N[.N]

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

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Referral source |
| METEOR identifier: | 297469 |
| Registration status: | [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), 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](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/297450) |
| Value Domain: | [Source of community service referral code N[.N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270597) |

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| 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 |

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| 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. |



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| 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]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269998)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 06/06/2005 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Home and Community Care MDS 2009](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/379878)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Recorded 16/11/2009  ***Implementation start date:*** 11/05/2006 |