

# Person—foot deformity indicator, code N

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to [info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au).

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at [meteor@aihw.gov.au](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Person—foot deformity indicator, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Foot deformity
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	302449
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 21/09/2005
<b>Definition:</b>	Whether a deformity is present on either foot, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—foot deformity indicator</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code	
<b>Data type:</b>	Boolean	
<b>Format:</b>	N	
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1	
	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Permissible values:</b>	1	Yes
	2	No
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	9	Not stated/inadequately described

### Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	CODE 9 Not stated/inadequately described This code is not for use in primary data collections.
-----------------------	---

### Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
---------------------------------	--

## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	CODE 1 Yes Record if a foot deformity is present on either foot.  CODE 2 No Record if no foot deformity is present on either foot.  Common deformities include claw toes, pes cavus, hallux valgus, hallux rigidus, hammer toe, Charcot foot and nail deformity.
<b>Collection methods:</b>	Both feet to be examined for the presence of foot deformity.

**Comments:** Foot deformities are associated with high mechanical pressure on the overlying skin that lead to ulceration in the absence of protective pain sensation and when shoes are unsuitable. Limited joint mobility is often present, with displaced plantar fat pad and more prominent metatarsal heads.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National diabetes data working group

**Origin:** National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary

**Reference documents:** Lesley V Campbell, Antony R Graham, Rosalind M Kidd, Hugh F Molloy, Sharon R O'Rourke and Stephen Colagiuri: The Lower Limb in People With Diabetes; Content 1997/98 Australian Diabetes Society.

Edmonds M, Boulton A, Buckenham T, et al. Report of the Diabetic Foot and Amputation Group. Diabet Med 1996; 13: S27 - 42.

Reiber GE. Epidemiology of the diabetic foot. In: Levin ME, O'Neal LW, Bowker JH, editors. The diabetic foot. 5th ed. St Louis: Mosby Year Book, 1993; 1 - 5.

Most RS, Sinnock P. The epidemiology of lower limb extremity amputations in diabetic individuals. Diabetes Care 1983; 6: 87 - 91.

Therapeutic Guidelines Limited (05.04.2002) Management plan for diabetes.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Person—foot deformity status, code N Health](#), Superseded 21/09/2005

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Diabetes \(clinical\) NBPDS Health](#), Standard 21/09/2005

### **DSS specific information:**

Foot deformities are frequently the result of diabetic motor neuropathy and diabetic foot disease is the most common cause of hospitalisation in people with diabetes.

Diabetic foot complications are common in the elderly, and amputation rates increase with age: by threefold in those aged 45 - 74 years and sevenfold over 75 years. In people with diabetes, amputations are 15 times more common than in people without diabetes and 50% of all amputations occur in people with diabetes (Epidemiology of the diabetic foot; Report of the Diabetic Foot and Amputation Group). All patients with diabetes mellitus should be instructed about proper foot care in an attempt to prevent ulcers. Feet should be kept clean and dry at all times. Patients with neuropathy should not walk barefoot, even in the home. Properly fitted shoes are essential.

Specialised foot clinics appear to decrease further episodes of foot ulceration and decrease hospital admissions for amputations.

Principles of Care and Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Diabetes Mellitus recommendations include:

- feet should be examined every 6 months or at every visit if high risk foot or active foot problem.
- refer to specialists experienced in the care of the diabetic foot if infection or ulceration is present.
- ensure that patients with 'high-risk foot' or an active foot problem receive appropriate care from specialists and podiatrists expert in the treatment of diabetic foot problems.
- to identify the 'high-risk foot' as indicated by a past history of foot problems, especially ulceration, and/or the presence of Peripheral neuropathy
- assessment outcome, peripheral vascular disease, or foot deformity or history of previous ulceration.