

# Person—severe hypoglycaemia 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—severe hypoglycaemia indicator, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Hypoglycaemia - severe
METEOR identifier:	302825
Registration status:	<a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 21/09/2005
Definition:	Whether a person has had <a href="#">severe hypoglycaemia</a> , as represented by a code.

## Data element concept attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

Data element concept:	<a href="#">Person—severe hypoglycaemia indicator</a>
METEOR identifier:	304019
Registration status:	<a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 21/09/2005
Definition:	Whether the individual has had <a href="#">severe hypoglycaemia</a> .
Context:	Public health, health care and clinical settings
Object class:	<a href="#">Person</a>
Property:	<a href="#">Severe hypoglycaemia indicator</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

Value domain:	<a href="#">Yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N</a>
METEOR identifier:	301747
Registration status:	<a href="#">Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board</a> , Recorded 25/10/2022 <a href="#">Children and Families</a> , Standard 22/11/2016 <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Standard 14/02/2006 <a href="#">Disability</a> , Standard 07/10/2014 <a href="#">Early Childhood</a> , Standard 21/05/2010 <a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 21/09/2005 <a href="#">Homelessness</a> , Standard 23/08/2010 <a href="#">Housing assistance</a> , Standard 10/02/2006 <a href="#">Independent Hospital Pricing Authority</a> , Standard 01/11/2012 <a href="#">Indigenous</a> , Standard 13/03/2015 <a href="#">Tasmanian Health</a> , Standard 08/11/2023
Definition:	A code set representing 'yes', 'no' and 'not stated/inadequately described'.

## 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

## Collection and usage attributes

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

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** CODE 1 Yes  
Record if the person has a history of severe hypoglycaemia.

CODE 2 No  
Record if the person has no history of severe hypoglycaemia.

**Collection methods:** Ask the individual if he/she has had a severe hypoglycaemia requiring assistance. Alternatively obtain the relevant information from appropriate documentation.

**Comments:** The medications used in the treatment of diabetes may cause the blood glucose value to fall below the normal range and this is called hypoglycaemia.

### Source and reference attributes

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

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

**Reference documents:** Definition corresponds with the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT): DCCT New England Journal of Medicine, 329(14), September 30, 1993. Report of the Health Care Committee Expert Panel on Diabetes; Commonwealth of Australia 1991; ISBN 0644143207.

### Relational attributes

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

***DSS specific information:***

Most hypoglycaemic reactions, however, do not cause long term problems, but the risks of permanent injury to the brain are greater in children under the age of 5 years, the elderly with associated cerebrovascular disease and patients with other medical conditions such as cirrhosis and coeliac disease. The serious consequences of hypoglycaemia relate to its effects on the brain. Rarely hypoglycaemia may cause death.

It is important to know how to recognise and react when someone is unconscious from hypoglycaemia. These people should be placed on their side and the airway checked so that breathing is unhampered and nothing should be given by mouth as food may enter the breathing passages. Treatment needs to be given by injection - either glucagon (a hormone which raises the blood glucose by mobilising liver stores) or glucose itself. Glucagon should be given by injection (usually intramuscular) at a dose of 0.5 units (or mg) in children under the age of 5 years and 1.0 units (mg) for all older age groups.

All diabetic patients at risk of developing hypoglycaemia should have glucagon at home. Their families need to be shown how to administer it in times of severe hypoglycaemia.