

Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, code N

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Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

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| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Assistance with activities |
| METEOR identifier: | 320213 |
| Registration status: | Community Services (retired) , Standard 16/10/2006 Disability , Standard 13/08/2015 Health , Standard 29/11/2006 |
| Definition: | The level of help and/or supervision a person requires (or would require if the person currently helping/supervising was not available) to perform tasks and actions in a specified life area, as represented by a code. |
| Context: | Human functioning and disability |
| Data Element Concept: | Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area |
| Value Domain: | Activity need for assistance code N |

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

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| Classification scheme: | International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health 2001 | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N | |
| Maximum character length: | 1 | |
| Permissible values: | Value | Meaning |
| | 0 | Does not need help/supervision |
| | 1 | Sometimes needs help/supervision |
| | 2 | Always needs help/supervision |
| | 3 | Unable to do this task or action, even with assistance |
| Supplementary values: | 8 | Not specified |
| | 9 | Not applicable |

Collection and usage attributes

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| Guide for use: | <p>This metadata item contributes to the definition of the concept 'Disability' and gives an indication of the experience of disability for a person.</p> <p>In the context of health, an activity is the execution of a task or action by an individual. Activity limitations are difficulties an individual may have in executing an activity.</p> <p>Activity limitation varies with the environment and is assessed in relation to a particular environment; the absence or presence of assistance, including aids and equipment, is an aspect of the environment.</p> <p>This value domain records the level of a person's need for help or supervision, in a specified domain, in their overall life. This means that the need for assistance may not be directly relevant to the health or community care service being provided.</p> <p>Where a life area includes a range of examples, (e.g. domestic life includes cooking, cleaning and shopping), if a person requires assistance in any of the areas then the highest level of assistance should be recorded.</p> <p>Where need for assistance varies markedly over time (e.g. episodic psychiatric conditions) please record the average level of assistance needed.</p> <p>The presence of an activity limitation with a given domain is indicated by a non-zero response in this value domain. Activity is limited when an individual, in the context of a health condition, either has need for assistance in performing an activity in an expected manner, or cannot perform the activity at all.</p> <p>CODE 0 is used when the person has no need for supervision or help and can undertake the activity independently.</p> <p>CODE 1 is used when the person sometimes needs assistance to perform an activity.</p> <p>CODE 2 is used when the person always needs assistance to undertake the activity and cannot do the activity without assistance.</p> <p>CODE 3 is used when the person cannot do the activity even with assistance</p> <p>CODE 8 is used when a person's need for assistance to undertake the activity is unknown or there is insufficient information to use codes 0-3.</p> <p>CODE 9 is used where the need for help or supervision is due to the person's age. For example, Education for persons less than 5 years and work for persons less than 15 years.</p> |
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Source and reference attributes

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| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) which is the Australian Collaborating Centre for the World Health Organization Family of International Classifications. |
| Origin: | <p>WHO 2001. ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO</p> <p>AIHW 2003. ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0. Canberra: AIHW</p> |
| Reference documents: | <p>Further information on the ICF, including more detailed codes, can be found in the ICF itself and the ICF Australian User Guide (AIHW 2003), at the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO ICF website • Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.html |

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: This data element, in conjunction with Person—activities and participation life area, code (ICF 2001) AN[NNN], indicates a person's need for assistance in a given domain of activity.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) which is the Australian Collaborating Centre for the World Health Organization Family of International Classifications.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: See also [Person—activity and participation life area, code \(ICF 2001\) AN\[NNN\]](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 16/10/2006
[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
[Health](#), Standard 29/11/2006

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Activities and Participation cluster](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 16/10/2006
[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
[Health](#), Standard 29/11/2006

[Child protection and support services \(CPSS\) client cluster](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 30/04/2008

Implementation start date: 22/06/2007

DSS specific information:

In the Child Protection NMDS, this data element refers to the need for assistance as a result of an underlying long-term health condition or disability. Need for assistance is determined when a child's needs are greater than fully functioning children of the same age.

If the child has a need for assistance then an activity and participation life area will be required.

[Children's Services NMDS](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 21/05/2010

DSS specific information: Record only whether the child has need for assistance or not. This is used in conjunction with the activity and participation life area.