Activity need for assistance code N

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
Synonymous names:	Activity - need for assistance
METEOR identifier:	324481
Registration status:	Community Services (retired), Standard 16/10/2006 Health, Standard 29/11/2006 Disability, Standard 13/08/2015
Definition:	A code set representing the level of need for assistance in executing a task or action from the *Activities and Participation* component of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF 2001).
Context:	Need for assistance with activities of daily living is collected in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers and from 2006 will be collected in the population census. This value domain has been designed so that need for assistance data collected in a range of health and community services settings can be related to these population data. This will increase the comparability of a wide range of data sets within Australia.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	**Meaning**
Permissible values:	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

Guide for use:	This metadata item contributes to the definition of the concept **'Disability'** and gives an indication of the experience of disability for a person.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Where need for assistance varies markedly over time (e.g. episodic psychiatric conditions) please record the average level of assistance needed.

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.

CODE 0 is used when the person has no need for supervision or help and can undertake the activity independently.

CODE 1 is used when the person sometimes needs assistance to perform an activity.

CODE 2 is used when the person always needs assistance to undertake the activity and cannot do the activity without assistance.

CODE 3 is used when the person cannot do the activity even with assistance

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.

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.

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.
Origin:	WHO 2001. ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO
	AIHW 2003. ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0. Canberra: AIHW
Reference documents:	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:

- WHO ICF website
  http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/en/
- Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website
  http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.html

Relational attributes

Data elements implementing this value domain:	[Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, code N](#)
	[Community Services (retired)](#), Standard 16/10/2006
	[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
	[Health](#), Standard 29/11/2006

Classification scheme attributes

Classification scheme:	[International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health 2001](#)
Synonymous names:	ICF 2001
METEOR identifier:	270548
Definition:	The World Health Organization's (WHO) system for classifying functioning, disability and health.
Registration status:	[Community Services (retired)](#), Standard 01/12/2004
	[Health](#), Standard 23/02/2005
	[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015

Collection and usage attributes

Comments:	The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) was endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2001 and is a reference member of the WHO Family of International Classifications and of the Australian Family of Health and Related Classifications (endorsed by the National Health Information Management Group in 2002).

Source and reference attributes

Origin:	World Health Organization (WHO) 2001. International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO
Reference documents:	Further information on the ICF can be found in the ICF itself and the ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0 (AIHW 2003), at the following websites:

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  http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/en/
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  http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.cfm