

Female—cervical screening indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Cervical screening indicator
Synonymous names:	Pap smear indicator
METEOR identifier:	358921
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Superseded 25/01/2018• Indigenous, Superseded 27/02/2018
Definition:	An indicator of whether a female person has had a cervical screening, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Female—cervical screening indicator

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code						
Data type:	Number						
Format:	N						
Maximum character length:	1						
Permissible values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>No</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Yes	2	No
Value	Meaning						
1	Yes						
2	No						
Supplementary values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>9</td><td>Not stated/inadequately described</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	9	Not stated/inadequately described		
Value	Meaning						
9	Not stated/inadequately described						

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: CODE 9 Not stated/inadequately described

This code is not for use in primary data collections.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: Currently, the screening test for cervical cancer is the Pap test (the terms Pap test and Pap smear are often used interchangeably), which is carried out by a general practitioner, nurse, or gynaecologist. During a Pap test, cells are collected from the surface of the cervix, transferred onto a slide or into a special liquid, and sent to a pathology laboratory for assessment. Details of the woman, the Pap test results, and any follow-up that may be recommended are then stored on a cervical cytology register (AIHW 2009).

Early detection and treatment of cervical cancer leads to a reduction of morbidity and mortality due to the disease. It is recommended that women aged 18-69 years, who have ever had sex, have a cervical screening every two years (DoH 2013).

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2009. Cervical screening in Australia 2006–2007. Cancer series no. 47. Cat. no. CAN 43. Canberra: AIHW.

DoH (Australian Government Department of Health) 2013. National Cervical Screening Program: The Pap Smear. Canberra: DoH. Viewed 4 November 2014, <<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/screening/publishing.nsf/Content/papsmear>>.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Female—cervical screening indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020
- [Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Indigenous primary health care DSS 2012-14](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 21/11/2013
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 21/11/2013

Implementation start date: 01/07/2012

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

DSS specific information:

In the Indigenous primary health care DSS, this data element will be applied up to 3 times to calculate the number of women who have had a cervical screening within the last 2 years, the last 3 years and the last 5 years. This data element will firstly be used to calculate the number of women who answered 'yes' to having had a cervical screening within the last 5 years. From this data, the data element will be used again but will collect data on the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 3 years. Finally, the data element will be applied again but will calculate the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 2 years.

This item is only collected if the respondent is female and aged 20 to 69 years.

[Indigenous primary health care DSS 2014-15](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 13/03/2015

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 13/03/2015

Implementation start date: 01/07/2014

Implementation end date: 30/06/2015

DSS specific information:

In the Indigenous primary health care DSS, this data element will be applied up to 3 times to calculate the number of women who have had a cervical screening within the last 2 years, the last 3 years and the last 5 years. This data element will firstly be used to calculate the number of women who answered 'yes' to having had a cervical screening within the last 5 years. From this data, the data element will be used again but will collect data on the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 3 years. Finally, the data element will be applied again but will calculate the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 2 years.

This item is only collected if the respondent is female and aged 20 to 69 years.

[Indigenous primary health care DSS 2015-17](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/02/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

DSS specific information:

In the Indigenous primary health care DSS, this data element will be applied up to 3 times to calculate the number of women who have had a cervical screening within the last 2 years, the last 3 years and the last 5 years. This data element will firstly be used to calculate the number of women who answered 'yes' to having had a cervical screening within the last 5 years. From this data, the data element will be used again but will collect data on the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 3 years. Finally, the data element will be applied again but will calculate the number of women who had a cervical screening within the last 2 years.

This item is only collected if the respondent is female and aged 20 to 69 years.

[Prison entrants DSS Health](#), Superseded 28/04/2016

Conditional obligation:

This data element is conditional on the respondent being female.

DSS specific information:

In the Prison entrants DSS, this data element refers to females reporting having had a cervical screen within the last two years.

This data element is included in the Prisoner Health DSS as the National Prisoner Health Indicators include the indicator: Proportion of female prison entrants who report that they have had a Pap smear in the last two years.

**Implementation in
Indicators:**

Used as Numerator

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22a-Number of female regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2013 Health](#), Superseded 21/11/2013
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 21/11/2013

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22a-Number of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2014 Health](#), Superseded 13/03/2015
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 13/03/2015

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22a-Number of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2015 Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 20/01/2017

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22a-Number of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2015-2017 Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/02/2018

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22b-Proportion of female regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2013 Health](#), Superseded 21/11/2013
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 21/11/2013

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22b-Proportion of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2014 Health](#), Superseded 13/03/2015
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 13/03/2015

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22b-Proportion of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2015 Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 20/01/2017

[Indigenous primary health care: PI22b-Proportion of regular clients who have had a cervical screening, 2015-2017 Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/02/2018

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