

# Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed) code X[XX]

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# Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed) code X[XX]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Cancer staging—N stage code
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	403661
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health, Standard 07/12/2011</a>
<b>Definition:</b>	The absence or presence and extent of regional lymph node metastasis in a person with cancer, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed) code X[XX]</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Classification scheme:</b>	<a href="#">International Union against Cancer (UICC) TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 7th edition</a>	
<b>Representation class:</b>	Code	
<b>Data type:</b>	String	
<b>Format:</b>	X[XX]	
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	3	
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
	997	Not applicable
	998	Unknown
	999	Not stated/inadequately described

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	Valid N codes from the current edition of the UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours.  Record the stage in Arabic numerals and the appropriate upper or lower case alphabetic character omitting the prefix "N". For example, record stage N1b for malignant melanoma of the skin as "1b".  Record if the N stage value has a prefix of "c" or "p". For example, record retinoblastoma N stage pN1 as "p1".  Refer to the TNM Supplement: A Commentary on Uniform Use, 3rd Edition for coding rules.
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## Source and reference attributes

<b>Reference documents:</b>	Wittekind C et al (Editors) 2003. International Union Against Cancer (UICC): TNM supplement: A commentary on uniform use, 3rd edition. Wiley-Blackwell.
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## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** Record the absence or presence and extent of regional lymph node metastasis at the time of diagnosis of the cancer.

TNM staging applies to solid tumours excluding brain tumours.

Choose the lower (less advanced) N category when there is any uncertainty.

The current edition of the AJCC (American Joint Committee on Cancer) Cancer Staging Manual provides an equivalent and alternative source of N stage codes.

Staging classification systems other than the TNM classification system are recorded separately.

**Collection methods:** This information should be obtained from the patient's medical record.

**Comments:** Cancer stage is an important determinant of treatment and prognosis, and is used to evaluate new treatments and analyse outcomes. Survival analysis is adjusted by stage at diagnosis and distribution of cancer cases by type and stage.

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Cancer Australia

**Reference documents:** Sobin LH, Gospodarowicz MK, Wittekind C (Editors) 2009. International Union Against Cancer (UICC): TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th edition. Wiley-Blackwell

American Joint Committee on Cancer 2010. AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, 7<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Springer

American College of Surgeons 2002. Facility Oncology Registry Data Standards (FORDS), 2009 revision. Commission on Cancer

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage \(UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 6th ed\) code XX](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2011

Has been superseded by [Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage \(UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 8th ed\) code X\[XX\]](#)

[Health](#), Recorded 14/06/2023

See also [Cancer staging—staging basis of cancer, code A](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2011

See also [Cancer staging—staging basis of cancer, code A](#)

[Health](#), Standard 07/12/2011

See also [Person with cancer—distant metastasis status, M stage \(UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed\) code X\[XX\]](#)

[Health](#), Standard 07/12/2011

See also [Person with cancer—extent of primary cancer, TNM stage \(UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed\) code X\[XX\]](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020

See also [Person with cancer—primary tumour status, T stage \(UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th ed\) code X\[XXX\]](#)

[Health](#), Standard 07/12/2011

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Breast cancer \(cancer registries\) NBPDS](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 01/09/2012

[Cancer \(clinical\) DSS](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 08/05/2014

[Cancer \(clinical\) DSS](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 14/05/2015

[Cancer \(clinical\) NBPDS](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 14/05/2015