

Immunotherapy for cancer cluster

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 418352

Registration status:

- [Health](#), Superseded 08/05/2014

DSS type: Data Element Cluster

Scope: Immunotherapy, also known as biological therapy, biotherapy or biological response modifier therapy, is cancer treatment that achieves its antitumour effect by altering the immune system or changing the host's response to the tumour cells.

The immunotherapy cluster consists of those data elements recommended for collection as best practice when the patient is administered immunotherapy as part of the initial course of treatment for cancer. The immunotherapy cluster collects information on the immunotherapy agent or protocol and the start and finish dates of treatment.

Information on the immunotherapy agent is required to evaluate patterns of care, the effectiveness of different treatment modalities and treatment by patient outcome. Collecting the start and finish dates will enable an estimate of the duration of immunotherapy and the time interval from diagnosis to treatment.

The use of standard definitions and formats supports the consistent collection and management of data and enables the integration of data from different sources. It provides a common language facilitating the interpretation and analysis of results, data linkage for statistical purposes, longitudinal studies and patient patterns of care and outcome studies. These results may then inform professional guidelines and training, quality assurance and the planning and evaluation of cancer control activities; potentially improving outcomes for patients.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Standard protocols are available online at eviQ Cancer Treatments Online (www.eviQ.org.au). This website is powered by the Cancer Institute NSW and endorsed by Cancer Australia, and provides current, evidence based, best practice cancer treatment protocols and information. It is recommended that only regimen or protocol names listed in eviQ be used to record immunotherapy agents; in all other cases, record the full generic name of each individual immunotherapy agent for each course of treatment.

Collection methods: Immunotherapy agents and cycles are recorded for each course of immunotherapy administered during the initial course of treatment regardless of treatment intent or timing.

The data element *Healthcare provider—organisation identifier, N(16)* may be recorded for each treatment/course. It is recommended that, wherever possible, the database be configured to allow entry of different healthcare provider identifiers for each therapeutic mode/course of treatment/course.

The initial course of treatment includes all treatments administered to the patient from diagnosis and before disease progression or recurrence.

The start date and completion date of immunotherapy are recorded once only for immunotherapy administered during the initial course of treatment.

This information should be collected from the patient's medical record.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Cancer Australia

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

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2010. National health data dictionary. Version 15. National health data dictionary series. Cat. no. HWI 107. Canberra: AIHW

Standard Cancer Treatment and Management Pathways Program, Cancer Services and Education Division, eviQ Cancer Treatments Online. Cancer Institute NSW

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Immunotherapy for cancer cluster](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 08/05/2014

See also [Cancer treatment—cancer treatment type, code N\[N\]](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 08/05/2014

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

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

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on patient receiving immunotherapy.

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Cancer treatment—immunotherapy completion date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
-	Cancer treatment—immunotherapy start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
-	Cancer treatment—systemic therapy agent or protocol, eviQ protocol identifier NNNNNN	Conditional	3
-	Cancer treatment—systemic therapy agent or protocol, text X[X(149)]	Mandatory	99

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