Person with cancer—laterality of primary cancer, code A

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# Person with cancer—laterality of primary cancer, code A

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| Identifying and definitional attributes |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Laterality of primary cancer |
| METEOR identifier: | 422769 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 07/12/2011 |
| Definition: | The side of a paired organ that is the origin of the primary cancer in a person with cancer, as represented by a code. |

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| Data element concept attributes |
| Identifying and definitional attributes |
| Data element concept: | [Person with cancer—laterality of primary cancer](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269644) |
| METEOR identifier: | 269644 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/03/2005 |
| Definition: | Laterality describes which side of a paired organ is the origin of the primary cancer. Each side of a paired organ is considered separately and described as lateral when occurring unless a physician determines that it is bilateral.A paired organ is one in which there are two separate organs of the same kind, one on either side of the body (e.g. kidney, breast, ovary, testis and lung). |
| Context: | This information is collected for the purpose of differentiating the site of the primary cancer. For example, a woman may present with a primary cancer in the left breast. She may return at a later stage with a new primary cancer in the right breast. |
| Object class: | [Person with cancer](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/268990) |
| Property: | [Laterality of primary cancer](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269179) |

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| Value domain attributes  |
| Identifying and definitional attributes |
| Value domain: | [Laterality code A](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270754) |
| METEOR identifier: | 270754 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/03/2005 |
| Definition: | A code set representing laterality. |

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| Representational attributes |
| Representation class: | Code |
| Data type: | String |
| Format: | A |
| Maximum character length: | 1 |
|   | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Permissible values: | R | Right |
|   | L | Left |
|   | B | Bilateral |
| Supplementary values: | N | Not applicable |
|   | U  | Unknown  |

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| Data element attributes  |
| Collection and usage attributes |
| Guide for use: | Record the appropriate code at the time of diagnosis.**Definitions****Right:** Origin of primary site is on the right side of a paired organ.**Left:**  Origin of primary site is on the left side of a paired organ.**Bilateral:**Origin of primary site is on both sides of a paired organ. (When tumours of the same morphology are diagnosed simultaneously in both sides of a paired organ.)Includes organs that are bilateral as a single primary (e.g. bilateral retinoblastoma (M9510/3, C69.2), (M9511/3, C69.2), (M9512/3, C69.2), (C69.6, C48.0), bilateral Wilms tumours (C64.9, M8960/3))Note: Bilateral cancers are very rare.**Unknown:** It is unknown whether, for a paired organ the origin of the cancer was on the left or right side of the body.**Paired organs and structures**The valid International Classification of Diseases for Oncology values for paired organs are provided in the list below:

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| C02.4 | Lingual tonsil |
| C07.9 | Parotid gland |
| C08.0 | Submandibular gland |
| C08.1 | Sublingual gland |
| C09.0 | Tonsillar fossa |
| C09.1 | Tonsillar pillar |
| C09.8 | Overlapping lesion of tonsil |
| C09.9 | Tonsil, NOS |
| C11.1 | Posterior wall of nasopharynx |
| C30.0 | Nasal cavity (excluding nasal cartilage and nasal septum) |
| C30.1 | Middle ear |
| C31.0 | Maxillary sinus |
| C31.2 | Frontal sinus |
| C34.0 | Main bronchus (excluding carina) |
| C34.1-C34.9 | Lung |
| C38.4 | Pleura |
| C40.0 | Long bones of upper limb and scapula |
| C40.1 | Short bones of upper limb |
| C40.2 | Long bones of lower limb |
| C40.3 | Short bones of lower limb |
| C41.3 | Rib and clavicle (excluding sternum) |
| C41.4 | Pelvic bones (excluding sacrum, coccyx and symphysis pubis) |
| C44.1 | Skin of eyelid |
| C44.2 | Skin of external ear |
| C44.3 | Skin of other and unspecified parts of face |
| C44.5 | Skin of trunk |
| C44.6 | Skin of upper limb and shoulder |
| C44.7 | Skin of lower limb and hip |
| C47.1 | Peripheral nerves and autonomic nervous system of upper limb and shoulder |
| C47.2 | Peripheral nerves and autonomic nervous system of lower limb and hip |
| C49.1 | Connective, subcutaneous and other soft tissues of upper limb and shoulder |
| C49.2 | Connective, subcutaneous and other soft tissues of lower limb and hip |
| C50.0-C50.9 | Breast |
| C56.9 | Ovary |
| C57.0 | Fallopian tube |
| C62.0-C62.9 | Testis |
| C63.0 | Epididymis |
| C63.1 | Spermatic cord |
| C64.9 | Kidney, NOS |
| C65.9 | Renal pelvis |
| C66.9 | Ureter |
| C69.0-C69.9 | Eye and lacrimal gland |
| C70.0 | Cerebral meninges, NOS |
| C71.0 | Cerebrum |
| C71.1 | Frontal lobe |
| C71.2 | Temporal lobe |
| C71.3 | Parietal lobe |
| C71.4 | Occipital lobe |
| C72.2 | Olfactory nerve |
| C72.3 | Optic nerve |
| C72.4 | Acoustic nerve |
| C72.5 | Cranial nerve, NOS |
| C74.0-C74.9 | Adrenal gland |
| C75.0 | Parathyroid glands |
| C75.4 | Carotid body |
| C76.4 | Upper limb, NOS |
| C76.5 | Lower limb, NOS |
| C77.3 | Lymph nodes of axilla or arm |
| C77.4 | Lymph nodes of inguinal region or leg |

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| Collection methods: | This information should be obtained from the patient's medical record and pathology report. |
| Comments: | The laterality of the primary tumour may have implications for treatment and prognosis, and can be of assistance to cancer registries for the coding of subsequent tumours in paired organs. |
| Source and reference attributes |
| Origin: | World Health Organization |
| Reference documents: | American College of Surgeons 2002. Facility Oncology Registry Data Standards (FORDS), 2010 revision. Commission on CancerFritz A et al. 2000. International Classification of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O), 3rd edition. Geneva: World Health Organization |
| Relational attributes |
| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Person with cancer—laterality of primary cancer, code [N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270177)[Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 07/12/2011 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Breast cancer (cancer registries) NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/491771)[Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/09/2012[Cancer (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394731)[Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/05/2014[Cancer (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/560813)[Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/05/2015[Cancer (clinical) NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/597861)[Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015 |