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:     |  |  | | --- | --- | | 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 | |
| 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 Cancer  Fritz 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 |