

Female (mother)—postpartum perineal status, code N[N]

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Female (mother)—postpartum perineal status, code N[N]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Postpartum perineal status
METEOR identifier:	423659
Registration status:	Health , Superseded 02/08/2017
Definition:	The state of the perineum following birth, as represented by a code.
Context:	Perinatal statistics
Data Element Concept:	Female (mother)—postpartum perineal status
Value Domain:	Perineal status code N[N]

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[N]
Maximum character length:	2

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Intact
	2	1st degree laceration/vaginal graze
	3	2nd degree laceration
	4	3rd degree laceration
	5	Episiotomy
	7	4th degree laceration
	88	Other perineal laceration, rupture or tear
Supplementary values:	99	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:**CODE 2 1st degree laceration/vaginal graze**

Graze, laceration, rupture or tear of the perineal skin during delivery that may be considered to be slight or that involves one or more of the following structures:

- fourchette
- labia
- vagina
- vulva

CODE 3 2nd degree laceration

Perineal laceration, rupture or tear as in Code 2 occurring during delivery, also involving:

- pelvic floor
- perineal muscles
- vaginal muscles

Excludes laceration involving the anal sphincter.

CODE 4 3rd degree laceration

Perineal laceration, rupture or tear as in Code 3 occurring during delivery, also involving:

- anal sphincter
- rectovaginal septum
- sphincter not otherwise specified (NOS)

Excludes laceration involving the anal or rectal mucosa.

CODE 7 4th degree laceration

Perineal laceration, rupture or tear as in Code 4 occurring during delivery, also involving:

- anal mucosa
- rectal mucosa

CODE 88 Other perineal laceration, rupture or tear

May include haematoma or unspecified perineal tear.

Comments:

If a laceration occurred during delivery and an episiotomy was performed, both the degree of laceration and the episiotomy should be recorded. If an episiotomy is performed, the perineum cannot be intact.

While 4th degree laceration is more severe than an episiotomy, this category has not been placed in order of clinical significance within the value domain. Instead, the category has been added to the value domain as a new code rather than modifying the order of the existing permissible values. This approach is consistent with established practice in classifications, wherein a new value domain identifier (or code number) is assigned to any new value meaning that occurs, rather than assigning this new value domain meaning to an existing value domain identifier.

Source and reference attributes**Submitting organisation:**

National Perinatal Data Development Committee

Origin:

National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH) 2010. The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM) – Seventh Edition - Tabular list of diseases and Alphabetic index of diseases. Sydney: NCCH, Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Sydney.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Multiple entries of permissible values are allowed.
Comments:	Perineal laceration (tear) may cause significant maternal morbidity in the postnatal period. Episiotomy is an indicator of management during labour and, to some extent, of obstetric intervention.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes Female (mother)—postpartum perineal status, code N Health , Superseded 07/02/2013 Has been superseded by Female (mother)—postpartum perineal status, code N[N] Health , Superseded 12/12/2018
Implementation in Data Set Specifications:	Perinatal NMDS 2013-14 Health , Superseded 07/03/2014 Implementation start date: 01/07/2013 Implementation end date: 30/06/2014 Perinatal NMDS 2014-18 Health , Superseded 02/08/2017 Implementation start date: 01/07/2014 Implementation end date: 30/06/2018

**Implementation in
Indicators:**

Used as Numerator

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Third- and fourth-degree perineal tears for all vaginal births, 2012-2014](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 07/06/2017](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2018](#)

[Health, Superseded 19/06/2019](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2019](#)

[Health, Superseded 16/09/2020](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2020](#)

[Health, Superseded 17/12/2021](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2020](#)

[Health, Superseded 17/12/2021](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2021](#)

[Health, Superseded 09/09/2022](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2022](#)

[Health, Superseded 14/07/2023](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally \(2016\)](#)

[Health, Superseded 06/09/2018](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2018](#)

[Health, Superseded 19/06/2019](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2019](#)

[Health, Superseded 16/09/2020](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2020](#)

[Health, Superseded 17/12/2021](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[Health, Superseded 06/09/2018](#)

Used as Disaggregation

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2018](#)

[Health, Superseded 19/06/2019](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2019](#)

[Health, Superseded 16/09/2020](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2020](#)

[Health, Superseded 17/12/2021](#)

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[Health, Superseded 06/09/2018](#)