

Person—unintentional weight loss indicator

Metadata item type: Data Element Concept

METEOR identifier: 428838

Registration status:

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

Definition: An indicator of whether a person experienced unintentional weight loss of greater than 10% in the previous six months

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class: [Person](#)

Definition: A human being.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: Prior to 13 March 2018, the definition of the 'Person' Object class was 'A human being, whether man, woman or child'. From 13 March 2018, the definition was edited by removing the words '...whether man, woman or child' so that a person is defined as 'A human being'. This amendment was undertaken to align the definition of a person with the *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender* and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) *Standard for Sex and Gender Variables*, which recognise that there are sex and gender types that are not exclusively male or female.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Macquarie University 2003. *The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.* Sydney: The Macquarie Library Pty. Ltd

Reference documents: Attorney-General's Department 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender. Viewed 26 July 2016, <https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx>

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. Standard for Sex and Gender Variables, 2016. ABS Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 26 July 2016, [http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument](http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012>Main+Features12016?OpenDocument)

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property: [Unintentional weight loss indicator](#)

Definition: An indicator of whether a person experienced unintentional weight loss of greater than 10% in the previous six months.

Weight loss is a reduction of the total body mass, due to a mean loss of fluid, body fat or adipose tissue and/or lean mass. It can occur unintentionally due to an underlying disease such as cancer. Patients with medical causes of weight loss usually have signs or symptoms that suggest involvement of a particular organ system.

Property group: [Impairment characteristic](#)

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Cancer Australia

Reference documents: Fauci AS et al (Editors) 2008. Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 17th edition, New York: McGraw-Hill Medical

Data element concept attributes

Relational attributes

Data Elements implementing this Data Element Concept: [Person—unintentional weight loss indicator, yes/no/unknown code N](#)

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