Person—unintentional weight loss indicator, yes/no/unknown code N

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# Person—unintentional weight loss indicator, yes/no/unknown code N

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Unintentional weight loss indicator |
| METEOR identifier: | 428841 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 08/05/2014 |
| Definition: | An indicator of whether a person experienced unintentional weight loss of greater than 10% in the previous six months, as represented by a code. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Person—unintentional weight loss indicator](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/428838) |
| Value Domain: | [Yes/no/unknown code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/428208) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N | |
| Maximum character length: | 1 | |
|  | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Permissible values: | 1 | Yes |
|  | 2 | No |
| Supplementary values: | 8 | Unknown |



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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | 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.  Record whether a person experienced unintentional weight loss of greater than 10% occurring in the previous six months. |
| Collection methods: | This information is based on the patient's self report and should be sought from their medical record. |
| Comments: | Marked weight loss is an important prognostic indicator and may influence treatment decisions. For example, cancer patients with weight loss have decreased performance status, impaired responses to chemotherapy and reduced median survival. |
| 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 |
| Relational attributes | |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Lung cancer (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/430950)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/05/2015  ***DSS specific information:*** This item should be recorded at diagnosis when recorded in the context of this Data Set Specification.  [Lung cancer (clinical) NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/599613)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  ***DSS specific information:***  This item should be recorded at diagnosis when recorded in the context of this NBPDS. |