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, 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
Value Domain:	Yes/no/unknown code N

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

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
Health, Superseded 14/05/2015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
Health, Standard 14/05/2015
DSS specific information:

This item should be recorded at diagnosis when recorded in the context of this NBPDS.