

Mental health legal status code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Value Domain

METEOR identifier: 471181

Registration status:

- [Health](#), Superseded 20/01/2021
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 20/12/2016

Definition: A code set representing whether a person is treated on an involuntary basis under the relevant state or territory mental health legislation.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Code

Data type: Number

Format: N

Maximum character length: 1

Permissible values:

Value	Meaning
1	Involuntary patient
2	Voluntary patient

Supplementary values:

9 Not reported/unknown

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: CODE 1 Involuntary patient

Involuntary patient should only be used by facilities which are approved for this purpose. While each state and territory mental health legislation differs in the number of categories of involuntary patient that are recognised, and the specific titles and legal conditions applying to each type, the legal status categories which provide for compulsory detention or compulsory treatment of the patient can be readily differentiated within each jurisdiction. These include special categories for forensic patients who are charged with or convicted of some form of criminal activity. Each state/territory health authority should identify which sections of their mental health legislation provide for detention or compulsory treatment of the patient and code these as involuntary status.

CODE 2 Voluntary patient

Voluntary patient to be used for reporting to the Community mental health care NMDS, where applicable.

CODE 9 Not reported/unknown

This code is to be used if the mental health legal status for the patient is either not reported or unknown.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Has been superseded by [Mental health legal status code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 20/01/2021

Supersedes [Mental health legal status code N](#)

- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Recorded 16/07/2015
- [Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2011

Data elements implementing this value domain:

[Episode of care—mental health legal status, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 20/01/2021
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 19/06/2020

[Episode of care—mental health legal status, code N](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018
- [Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2020

[Episode of care—mental health legal status, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 07/03/2014