

# Functional Independence Measure

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Glossary Item
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	FIM
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	495857
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 11/04/2014</li><li>• <a href="#">Independent Hospital Pricing Authority</a>, Standard 31/10/2012</li><li>• <a href="#">Tasmanian Health</a>, Standard 20/12/2016</li></ul>

**Definition:** An assessment of the severity of patient disability.

**Context:** The Functional Independence Measure (FIM™) instrument is a basic indicator of patient disability. FIM™ is used to track the changes in the functional ability of a patient during an episode of hospital rehabilitation care.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** Patient function is assessed using the FIM™ instrument at the start of a rehabilitation episode of care and at the end of a rehabilitation episode of care. Admission assessment is collected within 72 hours of the start of a rehabilitation episode. Discharge assessment is collected within 72 hours prior to the end of a rehabilitation episode.

**Comments:** FIM™ is comprised of 18 items, grouped into 2 subscales - motor and cognition.

The motor subscale includes:

- Eating
- Grooming
- Bathing
- Dressing, upper body
- Dressing, lower body
- Toileting
- Bladder management
- Bowel management
- Transfers - bed/chair/wheelchair
- Transfers - toilet
- Transfers - bath/shower
- Walk/wheelchair
- Stairs

The cognition subscale includes:

- Comprehension
- Expression
- Social interaction
- Problem solving
- Memory

Each item is scored on a 7 point ordinal scale, ranging from a score of 1 to a score of 7. The higher the score, the more independent the patient is in performing the task associated with that item.

1 - Total assistance with helper

2 - Maximal assistance with helper

3 - Moderate assistance with helper

4 - Minimal assistance with helper

5 - Supervision or setup with helper

6 - Modified independence with no helper

7 - Complete independence with no helper

The total score for the FIM motor subscale (the sum of the individual motor subscale items) will be a value between 13 and 91.

The total score for the FIM cognition subscale (the sum of the individual cognition subscale items) will be a value between 5 and 35.

The total score for the FIM instrument (the sum of the motor and cognition subscale scores) will be a value between 18 and 126.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

**Origin:** FIM™ is a trademark of the Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation, a division of UB Foundation Activities Incorporated.

Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre holds the territory license for the use of the FIM™ instrument in Australia.

**Reference documents:** Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation 2009. The FIM System® Clinical Guide, Version 5.2. Buffalo: UDSMR.

Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre, University of Wollongong 2012. What is the FIM™ Instrument? Viewed 19 September 2012, <http://ahsri.uow.edu.au/aroc/whatisfim/index.html>

## Relational attributes

Metadata items which use this glossary item:

[Activity based funding: Admitted sub-acute and non-acute hospital care DSS 2013-2014](#)

- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 11/10/2012

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care DSS 2014-15](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care DSS 2015-16](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2016-17](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 03/11/2016

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2017-18](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Candidate 04/08/2016

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2018-19](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 17/10/2018

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2019-20](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2020–21](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2021–22](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 20/10/2021

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2022–23](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 20/10/2021

[Episode of admitted patient care—clinical assessment score, code NN](#)

- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 30/10/2012

[Functional Independence Measure score code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 18/12/2019
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 06/05/2020

[Person—level of functional independence, Functional Independence Measure score code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 18/12/2019
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 06/05/2020