

Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory: Dental Services DSS, 2011

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 496216

Registration status:

- [Indigenous](#), Standard 08/10/2014

DSS type: Data Set Specification (DSS)

Scope: The Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory (CtG): Dental Services DSS, 2011 describes data collected in relation to dental services, provided by dental practitioners, to Indigenous children living in prescribed areas in the Northern Territory. Funding from the Australian Government allowed for dental services to be delivered through the Child Health Check Initiative (CHCI) and the Closing the Gap (CtG) Child Oral Health Program from August 2007. The focus of the CtG dental service is on Indigenous children aged 15 years or less who have dental referrals from their Child Health Checks. Other children may also receive services from the NT Department of Health (NT DoH), however, funding for these services is provided from other sources.

Dental services that do not require anaesthetic or can be provided through the administration of local anaesthetic are provided through mobile facilities or community clinics which are staffed by dental practitioners. Treatments requiring general anaesthetic, such as if a child had a severe dental health problem requiring surgery, are provided by Northern Territory public hospitals.

Dental practitioners can be dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, dental prothetists or oral health therapists.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: The Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory (CtG): Dental Services DSS, 2011 is based on version 2 of the dental services form. This form was implemented in October 2011 and was in use until July 2012, after which version 3 was introduced for data collection relating to services provided under the Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory program. An earlier version of the dental services form was implemented in August 2007 and is still used by some dental clinics. Version 2 of the dental services form collects the following additional information:

- the ID or name of the community, town camp or homeland where the child is resident
- "full mouth fluoride" collected separately in dental services provided during this occasion of service
- "dental abscess" added to problems treated during this occasion of service
- an indication of whether a patient was referred for a general anaesthetic.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) only receives confidentialised unit record level information on those children for which consent for data provision to AIHW has been obtained.

Collection methods: Data collected is based on 'occasion of service' which refers to occasions of examination, consultation, treatment or other services provided to a patient. When the dental service occurs, the dental practitioner completes the form with information about the services provided and the child's demographic details.

Implementation start date: 01/10/2011

Comments: Glossary terms that are relevant to this DSS are:

- [Anaesthesia](#)
- [Caries](#)

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Department of Health

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

Steward: [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

Reference documents: [AIHW 2012. Northern Territory Emergency Response Child Health Check Initiative: follow-up services for oral and ear health: final report, 2007-2012.](#)
Cat. no. DEN 223. Canberra: AIHW

[AIHW 2012. Dental health of Indigenous children in the Northern Territory: progress of the Closing the Gap Child Oral Health Program, April 2012.](#)
Bulletin 102. Canberra: AIHW

[AIHW 2011. Dental health of Indigenous children in the Northern Territory: findings from the Closing the Gap Program.](#) Cat. no. IHW41. Canberra: AIHW

Relational attributes

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification [Show more detail](#)

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	Service event—date of service, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	2
2	Discrete Indigenous community—identifier, AANNA	Optional	2
3	Discrete Indigenous community—Indigenous community name, text AA[A(38)]	Optional	2
4	Client—consent obtained indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
5	Person—person identifier, XXXXXX[X(14)]	Mandatory	2
6	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
7	Person—sex, code N	Mandatory	1
8	Patient—type of dental service provided, code N[N]{X}	Mandatory	11
9	Patient—type of dental service provided, text X[X(99)]	Conditional	1
10	Patient—assessment only indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
11	Patient—oral health education indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
12	Patient—dental treatment provided indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
13	Patient—type of dental problem treated, code N[N]	Optional	9
14	Patient—type of dental problem treated, text X[X(99)]	Conditional	1
17	Decayed, missing and filled teeth cluster	Mandatory	1
18	Patient—follow-up dental treatment required indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
19	Patient—general anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no code N	Conditional	1