# Radiotherapy for cancer cluster

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Data Set Specification

**METEOR identifier:** 561380

**Registration status:**
- Health, Standard 08/05/2014

**DSS type:** Data Element Cluster

**Scope:** The radiotherapy cluster consists of those data elements recommended for collection as best practice when the patient receives radiotherapy as part of the course of treatment for cancer. The radiotherapy cluster collects information on the radiotherapy type, dose, fractions, target site and the start and finish dates for each course of treatment.

Information on the type, dose, fractions and target site of radiotherapy is required to evaluate patterns of care, the effectiveness of different treatment modalities and treatment by patient outcome. Collecting the start and finish dates will enable an estimate of the duration of radiotherapy and the time interval from diagnosis to treatment.

The use of standard definitions and formats supports the consistent collection and management of data and enables the integration of data from different sources. It provides a common language facilitating the interpretation and analysis of results, data linkage for statistical purposes, longitudinal studies and patient patterns of care and outcome studies. These results may then inform professional guidelines and training, quality assurance and the planning and evaluation of cancer control activities, potentially improving outcomes for patients.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** Capturing the radiotherapy dose and fractions is problematic at some target sites, for example, head and neck cancers and breast cancers. In these cases, treatment is complex with the use of multiple treatment fields and the overall total dose may need to be determined manually by the radiation oncologist.

**Collection methods:** The radiotherapy type, dose, fractions, target site and start and finish dates are recorded for each course of radiotherapy the patient received during the course of treatment for cancer regardless of treatment intent or timing.

The data element *Healthcare provider—organisation identifier, N(16)* may be recorded for each treatment. It is recommended that, wherever possible, the database be configured to allow entry of different healthcare provider identifiers for each therapeutic course of treatment.

Information regarding radiotherapy will typically be found in the radiation oncologist's summary letter for the course of treatment

Determining the total dose, number of fractions and target site of radiotherapy may require assistance from the radiation oncologist for consistent coding.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Cancer Australia

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes Radiotherapy for cancer cluster

- Health, Superseded 08/05/2014

See also Cancer treatment—cancer treatment type, code N[N]

- Health, Standard 08/05/2014

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

Cancer (clinical) DSS
Health, Superseded 14/05/2015

***Conditional obligation:***

Conditional on the patient receiving radiotherapy.

Cancer (clinical) NBPDS
Health, Standard 14/05/2015

***Conditional obligation:***

Conditional on the patient receiving radiotherapy.

### Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

| Seq No. | Metadata item | Obligation | Max occurs |
|---|---|---|---|
| - | Cancer treatment—radiation dose administered, total Gray N[NN.NN] | Mandatory | 99 |
| - | Cancer treatment—radiotherapy completion date, DDMMYYYY | Mandatory | 99 |
| - | Cancer treatment—radiotherapy fractions administered, total fractions N[N] | Mandatory | 99 |
| - | Cancer treatment—radiotherapy start date, DDMMYYYY | Mandatory | 99 |
| - | Cancer treatment—radiotherapy target site, code N[N] | Mandatory | 99 |
| - | Cancer treatment—radiotherapy treatment type, code N[N] | Mandatory | 99 |