

Maternity model of care—extent of continuity of carer, code N[N]

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Extent of continuity of carer
METEOR identifier:	562423
Registration status:	Health , Standard 14/05/2015
Definition:	The extent to which continuity of carer is provided across the continuum of maternity care within a model of maternity care, as represented by a code.
Context:	Used in maternal and perinatal healthcare settings.
Data Element Concept:	Maternity model of care—extent of continuity of carer
Value Domain:	Continuity of carer code N[N]

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[N]
Maximum character length:	2

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Antenatal period only
	2	Antenatal and intrapartum periods
	3	Antenatal and postpartum periods
	4	Intrapartum and postpartum periods
	5	Whole duration of maternity period - antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum
	6	No continuity of carer
Supplementary values:	99	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:**CODE 1 Antenatal period only**

This code is to be used if the model of care provides continuity of carer throughout the antenatal period only.

A single named designated carer provides the majority of care to each woman for the antenatal period only and not for intrapartum or postpartum care.

CODE 2 Antenatal and intrapartum periods

This code is to be used if the model of care provides continuity of carer throughout the antenatal and intrapartum periods only.

A single named designated carer provides the majority of care to each woman for the antenatal period as well as intrapartum care but does not provide postpartum care.

CODE 3 Antenatal and postpartum periods

This code is to be used if the model of care provides continuity of carer throughout the antenatal and postpartum periods only.

A single named designated carer provides the majority of care to each woman for the antenatal period and again in the postpartum period but not for intrapartum care. This may be the case for some remote or rural models of care where women are transferred to another hospital for birth but receive their antenatal and postnatal care in their local hospital or community.

CODE 4 Intrapartum and postpartum periods

This code is to be used if the model of care provides continuity of carer throughout the intrapartum and postpartum periods only.

A single named designated carer provides the majority of care to each woman for the birth episode (intrapartum period) and postpartum period but does not provide care in the antenatal period.

CODE 5 Whole duration of maternity period - antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum

This code is to be used if the model of care provides continuity of carer throughout all stages of the pregnancy, labour and postnatal periods.

A single named designated carer provides the majority of care to each woman for the antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum periods.

CODE 6 No continuity of carer

This code is to be used if the model of care does not provide any continuity of carer to women in the model.

There is no named designated carer assigned to each woman and care is provided by any number of different care providers throughout the antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum periods. There may be a small team of maternity care professionals providing care to women within the same philosophical model (continuity of care). However, there is no primary or lead caregiver offering continuity of carer.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit

Origin: National Maternity Data Development Project (AIHW and NPESU), Maternity Care Classification System subproject.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: When recording a value for this data element it is important to differentiate between continuity of **carer** and continuity of **care**. This data element measures 'Continuity of carer' which is a measure of whether relational continuity or 'one-to-one care' is provided by the same named caregiver being involved throughout the period of care even when other caregivers are required. A defining requirement of 'Continuity of carer' is that the care is provided or lead over the full length of the episode of care by the same named carer in a model of care.

Continuity of care is a different concept that can be provided by a team of caregivers working within the same philosophy and framework and sharing information but there is an absence of a designated named carer.

Collection methods: Data are gathered using the Maternity Care Classification System (MaCCS) data collection questionnaire on an annual basis by every maternity service when classifying their models of care or when a new model of care is introduced.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit

Origin: National Maternity Data Development Project (AIHW and NPESU), Maternity Care Classification System subproject.

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Maternity model of care NBPDS Health](#), Standard 14/05/2015