Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory: Audiology services DSS, May 2013-August 2014

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Set Specification
METEOR identifier:	578388
Registration status:	[Indigenous,](#) Standard 18/02/2015
DSS type:	Data Set Specification (DSS)
Scope:	This DSS covers data collected on services provided under the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory (SFNT) Audiology Services program. The SFNT began in July 2012 and provides funding over a decade to 2021-22. The audiology services component of this agreement replaced, and expanded upon, services implemented under the Child Health Check Initiative (CHCI) and then the Closing the Gap (CtG) in the Northern Territory National Partnership. The SFNT Audiology services program is available to all Indigenous children in the Northern Territory under the age of 16.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	This audiology services dataset is based on version 8 of the audiology services form which was implemented from May 2013. The form contains clinical data collected as part of routine healthcare provided by professionals who delivered these services. Earlier versions of the audiology form were in place between August 2007 and April 2013. Although the various versions of the audiology forms have most of the same questions, there are also some key differences, such as:

- version 1a does not include a question on the Hospital Registration Number (HRN)
- version 1a and 1b include a question about consent for the provision of data
- the format of, and response options for, question 4 have changed substantially between the earlier and later versions of the form
- versions 7 and 8 do not collect information about a previous audiology check.

The AIHW only receives confidentialised unit record level information on those children for which consent for data provision to AIHW has been obtained.

Implementation start date:	01/05/2013
Comments:	Glossary terms that are relevant to this DSS are:

- **[Audiology assessment](#)**
- **[Ear health intervention](#)**
- **[Hearing impairment](#)**
- **[Hearing loss](#)**

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Department of Health
	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
Steward:	[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)
Origin:	Northern Territory Department of Health 2011. Audiology service form, Version 8
	AIHW 2012. Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory: Hearing Health Services 2012-2013. Cat. No. IHW 117. Canberra: AIHW.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes [Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory: Audiology services DSS, April 2012-April 2013](#) [Indigenous](#), Superseded 18/02/2015

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	[Service event—date of service, DDMMYYYY](#)	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

Date of service follows the standard DD/MM/YYYY format except where not enough detail is provided. In these instances the following codes should be used:

'Other' :   01/01/1800

'Not stated' : 01/01/1900

2	[Audiology assessment client cluster](#)	Mandatory	1
1	[Discrete Indigenous community—identifier, AANNA](#)	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

This data element records the identifier of the community, town camp or homeland where the service was provided.

2	[Person—person identifier, XXXXXX[X(14)]](#)	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

This data element is used to record the Hospital Registration Number (HRN).

HRNs are allocated to people when they are born in Northern Territory public hospitals or when they first attend a Northern Territory public hospital to receive a service. It is a unique number that is not associated with a Medicare number. As at May 2013, the HRNs are either 6 or 7 digits long but there is capacity to increase to more digits as required.

A person's HRN does not change. It remains with them for the duration of their life.

3	[Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](#)	Mandatory	1
4	[Person—sex, code N](#)	Mandatory	1
3	[Patient—hearing loss indicator, yes/no code N](#)	Mandatory	1

DSS specific information:

It is possible for 'no hearing loss' to be recorded in two places on the form (level of hearing loss and type of hearing loss). To streamline this process only one occurrence appears in the DSS.

4	[Patient—site of hearing loss, code N](#)	Conditional	1

Conditional obligation:

Valid where a 'yes' response to the hearing loss indicator data element is selected.

| 5 | Patient—type of hearing loss, code N | Conditional | 1 |

Conditional obligation:

Valid where a 'yes' response to the type of hearing loss indicator data element is selected.

| 6 | Patient—hearing impairment indicator, yes/no code N | Mandatory | 1 |
| 7 | Patient—degree of hearing impairment, code N | Conditional | 1 |

Conditional obligation:

Valid where a 'yes' response to the degree of hearing impairment indicator data element is selected.

DSS specific information:

The pure tone thresholds used to identify hearing impairment in the Audiology Services DSS are based on recommendations from Australian Hearing. They differ from the World Health Organization (WHO) standards as data relates only to children.

Coding note: If a hearing impairment measurement is provided for both left and right ear, and it is indicated which measurement relates to which ear, the hearing impairment of least severity is recorded as the response to this question (ie. the response is based on the better ear).

| 8 | Patient—middle ear condition indicator, yes/no code N | Mandatory | 1 |
| 9 | Patient—middle ear condition type, code N.N | Conditional | 2 |

Conditional obligation:

Valid where a 'yes' response to the middle ear condition indicator data element is selected.

DSS specific information:

The middle ear condition is recorded twice; once for the right ear and once for the left ear.

| 10 | Patient—middle ear condition type, text X[X(99)] | Conditional | 2 |

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on 'other' being selected in the *Patient—middle ear condition type, code N.N*.

DSS specific information:

This data element has a maximum occurrence of 2. Record separately for right ear and left ear, as appropriate.

| 11 | Patient—audiology assessment recommended course of action, code N[N] | Mandatory | 8 |
| 12 | Patient—audiology assessment recommended course of action, text X[X(99)] | Conditional | 1 |

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on 'other' being selected in *Patient—audiology assessment recommended course of action, code N[N]* data element.