

Person—level of cognitive ability, Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination item score code N

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Person—level of cognitive ability, Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination item score code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Level of cognitive ability
Synonymous names:	SMMSE item score; Mini-Mental item score
METEOR identifier:	681420
Registration status:	Health , Standard 25/01/2018
Definition:	The person's degree of cognitive ability to process thoughts and respond appropriately and safely, as represented by a Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination (SMMSE) score-based code.
Data Element Concept:	Person—level of cognitive ability
Value Domain:	Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination item score code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	0	Score of 0
	1	Score of 1
	2	Score of 2
	3	Score of 3
	4	Score of 4
Supplementary values:	5	Score of 5
	7	Not applicable - item has been omitted
	8	Unknown
	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

The SMMSE is a clinical assessment tool which is used as a screening test for cognitive impairment (Molloy et al. 1991a).

The SMMSE consists of 12 items or questions which assess a range of cognitive domains, requiring vocal and physical actions (such as memory recall and drawing) in response to reading and listening to commands. Each item has a maximum score:

Question/ Item number	Cognitive domain	Maximum score
1	Orientation - time	5
2	Orientation - place	5
3	Memory - immediate	3
4	Language/attention	5
5	Memory - short	3
6	Language/memory - long	1
7	Language/memory - long	1
8	Language/abstract thinking/verbal fluency	1
9	Language	1
10	Language/attention/comprehension	1
11	Attention/comprehension/follow commands/constructional	1
12	Attention/comprehension/ construction/follow commands	3
Total		30

Scores above 1 are not permissible for items 6–11.

Scores above 3 are not permissible for items 3 and 12.

Scores above 5 are not permissible for items 1, 2 and 4.

The final SMMSE score is a sum of the 12 items, and can range from a minimum of 0 to a maximum of 30. The SMMSE can be adjusted for non-cognitive disabilities.

As outlined in the SMMSE guidelines, if an item cannot be modified or adjusted then the item is omitted, reducing the maximum obtainable score from 30 (Molloy et al. 1991a). The formula—(Actual score x 30)/Maximum obtainable score—is used to readjust the score to be comparable with unadjusted scores.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

Reference documents: Molloy D, Alemayehy E, & Roberts R 1991a. Reliability of a standardized Mini-Mental State Examination compared with the traditional Mini-Mental state Examination. *American Journal of Psychiatry* 148:102–105.

Molloy D, Alemayehy E, & Roberts R 1991b. The Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination tool. Sydney: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority. Viewed 31 July 2017, <https://www.ihoa.gov.au/sites/g/files/net636/f/publications/smmse-tool-v2.pdf>

Molloy D, Alemayehy E, & Roberts R 2014. The Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination guidelines. Sydney: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority. Viewed 31 July 2017, <https://www.ihoa.gov.au/sites/g/files/net636/f/publications/smmse-guidelines-v2.pdf>

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: This data element is used to report a score for one of the 12 items that comprise the SMMSE tool. It should be reported in an array of 12 to enable a full SMMSE assessment score.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Person—level of cognitive ability, Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination item score code N](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2018-19](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 17/10/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

Implementation end date: 30/06/2019

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2019-20](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019

Implementation start date: 01/07/2019

Implementation end date: 30/06/2020

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

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[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2020-21](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2020

Implementation end date: 30/06/2021

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as:

- Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

DSS specific information:

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.

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

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

Implementation start date: 01/07/2021

Implementation end date: 30/06/2022

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as:

- Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

DSS specific information:

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.

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

[Health](#), Superseded 20/12/2022

Implementation start date: 01/07/2022

Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as:

- Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

DSS specific information:

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

Implementation start date: 01/07/2023

Implementation end date: 30/06/2024

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as:

- Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

DSS specific information:

Only one array of SMMSE scores (i.e. 12 individual scores) per Geriatric evaluation and management episode are required to be reported.

If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.

[Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2024–25](#)

Health, Standard 06/12/2023

Implementation start date: 01/07/2024

Implementation end date: 30/06/2025

Conditional obligation:

Only required to be reported for episodes of admitted patient care with [Hospital service—care type, code N\[N\]](#) recorded as:

- Code 4, Geriatric evaluation and management.

DSS specific information:

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If multiple sets of SMMSE scores are recorded in the patient's record, the set of scores (12 individual scores) which demonstrate the lowest level of cognitive ability recorded during the Geriatric evaluation and management episode should be reported.