

# Mental illness prevention

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# Mental illness prevention

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 721785

**Registration status:** [Health](#), Standard 16/01/2020

**Definition:** Mental illness prevention includes services that work to prevent the onset of mental disorders, in order to reduce the incidence and prevalence of mental illness in the community. Mental illness prevention activities are directed at reducing known risk factors and/or preventing people that display early signs of mental illness from developing a diagnosable mental illness. These activities can be either population-wide or targeted at vulnerable segments of the community.

In contrast to [Mental health promotion](#), which seeks to enhance the population's mental health, Mental illness prevention aims to prevent the development of mental illness.

**Context:** Mental health non-government organisation establishments service type taxonomy.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** *Distinguishing features:*

- Population-based
- Vulnerable segments of the community
- Typically long-term activities

*Inclusions:*

- Mental illness prevention activities

*Exclusions:*

- Mental health promotion activities (these are reported under [Mental health promotion](#))

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Mental illness prevention](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020

**Metadata items which use this glossary item:** [Mental health non-government organisation payments cluster](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 16/01/2020  
[Mental health promotion](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 16/01/2020