

Birth event—type of anaesthesia administered, code N[N]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Type of anaesthesia administered during a birth event
METEOR identifier:	749932
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 17/12/2021
Definition:	The type of anaesthesia administered to a female during a birth event with instrumental or operative birth, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Birth event—type of anaesthesia administered

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code																
Data type:	Number																
Format:	N[N]																
Maximum character length:	2																
Permissible values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2</td><td>Local anaesthetic to perineum</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Pudendal block</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Epidural or caudal block</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Spinal block</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>General anaesthesia</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>Combined spinal-epidural block</td></tr><tr><td>88</td><td>Other anaesthesia</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	2	Local anaesthetic to perineum	3	Pudendal block	4	Epidural or caudal block	5	Spinal block	6	General anaesthesia	7	Combined spinal-epidural block	88	Other anaesthesia
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Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

CODE 2 Local anaesthetic to perineum

A local anaesthetic to the perineum was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. Local anaesthetic to perineum is the infiltration of the perineum with a local anaesthetic.

CODE 3 Pudendal block

A pudendal block was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. A pudendal block is an injection of a local anaesthetic to the pudendal nerves.

CODE 4 Epidural or caudal block

An epidural or caudal block was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby.

An epidural block is an injection of a local anaesthetic into the epidural space of the spinal column.

A caudal block is an injection of a local anaesthetic agent into the caudal portion of the spinal canal through the sacrum.

CODE 5 Spinal block

A spinal block was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. A spinal block is an injection of an analgesic drug or anaesthetic drug into the subarachnoid space of the spinal cord. Spinal block is also called Subarachnoid Block Anaesthesia.

CODE 6 General anaesthesia

General anaesthesia was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. General anaesthesia includes various anaesthetic agents given primarily by inhalation or intravenous injection.

CODE 7 Combined spinal-epidural block

A combined spinal-epidural block was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. A combined spinal-epidural block is a needle-through-needle injection of an analgesic drug or anaesthetic drug into both the epidural space and the subarachnoid space of the spinal column. The spinal-epidural block combines the benefits of rapid action of a spinal block and the flexibility of an epidural block. An epidural catheter inserted during the technique enables the provision of long-lasting analgesia with the ability to titrate the dose for the desired effect.

CODE 88 Other anaesthesia

Other anaesthesia (not indicated above) was administered to the mother for the operative/instrumental birth of the baby. This may include parenteral opioids and nitrous oxide.

Comments:

Code 1 (None) has been omitted as it is no longer in use. For information about its meaning in previous data elements, see superseded versions.

Data element attributes**Collection and usage attributes****Guide for use:**

More than one permissible value may be recorded.

CODE 7 Combined spinal-epidural block

Combined spinal-epidural block should not be recorded if both Code 4 and Code 5 are also recorded.

Comments:

Anaesthetic use may affect the health status of the baby and is an indicator of obstetric intervention.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Perinatal Data Development Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Birth event—type of anaesthesia administered, code N\[N\]](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

See also [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

- [Health](#), Recorded 25/07/2022

See also [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

See also [Birth event—birth method, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Recorded 25/07/2022

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Perinatal NMDS 2022–23 Health](#), Standard 17/12/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2022

Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

Conditional obligation:

This data element is only to be recorded if the response to the [Birth event—birth method, code N](#) data element is Code 2 (Vaginal—forceps), Code 4 (Caesarean section) or Code 5 (Vaginal—vacuum extraction) and [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Yes).

DSS specific information:

This data element does not include the removal of the placenta.

This is a multiple response data element and is therefore operationalised for data collection across 7 individual data items (one data item per permissible value, excluding Code 99 (Not stated/inadequately described)).

[Perinatal NMDS 2023–24 Health](#), Recorded 26/07/2022

Implementation start date: 01/07/2023

Implementation end date: 30/06/2024

Conditional obligation:

This data element is only to be recorded if the response to the [Birth event—birth method, code N](#) data element is Code 2 (Vaginal—forceps), Code 4 (Caesarean section) or Code 5 (Vaginal—vacuum extraction) and [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Yes).

DSS specific information:

This data element does not include the removal of the placenta.

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