

Type of birth anaesthesia administered code N[N]

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	749934
Registration status:	Health, Standard 17/12/2021 Tasmanian Health, Standard 08/11/2023
Definition:	A code set representing the type of anaesthesia administered during a birth event.

Representational attributes

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

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	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
Supplementary values:	99	Not stated/inadequately described

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.

Relational attributes**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes [Type of birth anaesthesia administered code N\[N\] Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

Data elements implementing this value domain:

[Birth event—type of anaesthesia administered, code N\[N\] Health](#), Standard 17/12/2021
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 08/11/2023