

# Birth event—type of analgesia administered, code N[N]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Type of analgesia administered during a birth event
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	749937
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 17/12/2021</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The type of <a href="#">analgesia</a> administered to a female during a birth event with labour, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Birth event—type of analgesia administered</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N[N]
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	2

### Permissible values:

Value	Meaning
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2	Nitrous oxide
4	Epidural or caudal block
5	Spinal block
6	Systemic opioids
7	Combined spinal-epidural block
88	Other analgesia

### Supplementary values:

Value	Meaning
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99	Not stated/inadequately described
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## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:****CODE 2 Nitrous oxide**

Nitrous oxide was administered to a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth. Nitrous oxide is a gas providing light anaesthesia delivered in various concentrations with oxygen.

**CODE 4 Epidural or caudal block**

An epidural or caudal block was administered to a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth.

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 a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth. A spinal block is an injection of an analgesic drug or anaesthetic drug into the subarachnoid space of the spinal cord, also called the Subarachnoid Block Anaesthesia.

**CODE 6 Systemic opioids**

Systemic opioids were administered to a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth. This includes intramuscular and intravenous opioids.

**CODE 7 Combined spinal-epidural block**

A combined spinal-epidural block was administered to a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth. 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 analgesia**

Other analgesia (not indicated above) was administered to a female for pain relief during the labour and/or birth. This includes all non-narcotic oral analgesia and non-pharmacological methods such as hypnosis, acupuncture, massage, relaxation techniques, temperature regulation and aromatherapy.

**Comments:**

Code 1 (None) and Code 3 (Intra-muscular narcotics) have been omitted as these codes are no longer in use. For information about their meaning in previous data elements, see superseded versions.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Perinatal Data Development Committee

## 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:** Analgesia use may influence the duration of labour, may affect the health status of the baby at birth and is an indicator of obstetric intervention. Analgesia may also influence a female's satisfaction with her birth experience and is an indicator of access to anaesthesia services, i.e. epidural analgesia is not available for females in birth events where there are no anaesthetic services.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Perinatal Data Development Committee

## Relational attributes

### Related metadata references:

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

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

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

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

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

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

See also [Birth event—labour onset type, code N](#)

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

See also [Birth event—labour onset type, code N](#)

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

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

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

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Perinatal NMDS 2022–23Health](#), 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—labour onset type, code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Spontaneous) or Code 2 (Induced) and the [Birth event—analgesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Yes).

**DSS specific information:**

This data element is to be recorded for first and second stage labour, but not for third stage labour, e.g. removal of placenta.

This is a multiple response data element and is therefore operationalised for data collection across 6 individual data items (one data item per permissible value, excluding Code 99 (Not stated/inadequately described)).

[Perinatal NMDS 2023–24Health](#), 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—labour onset type, code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Spontaneous) or Code 2 (Induced) and the [Birth event—analgesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) data element is Code 1 (Yes).

**DSS specific information:**

This data element is to be recorded for first and second stage labour, but not for third stage labour, e.g. removal of placenta.

This is a multiple response data element and is therefore operationalised for data collection across 6 individual data items (one data item per permissible value, excluding Code 99 (Not stated/inadequately described)).