topography code (ICD-O-3.1) ANN.N
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Person with cancer—primary site of cancer, topography code (ICD-O-3.1) ANN.N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Element

Short name: Primary site of cancer (ICD-O-3.1 code)

METEOR identifier: 775162

Registration status: Health, Qualified 03/08/2023

Definition: The site in which the tumour originated in a person with cancer, as opposed to the

secondary or metastatic sites, as represented by an ICD-O-3.1 code.

Data Element Concept: Person with cancer—primary site of cancer

Value Domain: Topography code (ICD-O-3.1) ANN.N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Classification scheme: International Classification of Diseases for Oncology 3rd edition, 1st

revision

Representation class: Code

Data type: String

Format: ANN.N

Maximum character length: 5

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Record all four alphanumeric characters of the topography code. The number after

the decimal point represents the subsite or subcategory.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: World Health Organization. (2013). International classification of diseases for

oncology (ICD-O), 3rd ed., 1st revision. World Health Organization. https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/96612

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Record the primary site of cancer, if known, for patients who have been diagnosed

with cancer. When the primary site is unknown, record C80.9.

The primary site of the tumour is the site of origin, as opposed to the secondary or

metastatic site.

Record all four alphanumeric characters of the topography code. The number after

the decimal point represents the subsite or subcategory.

If the patient is diagnosed with more than one primary tumour, record the site of

each primary separately.

If the primary site differs on multiple pathology or other notification reports for the same tumour, use the most specific value. For example, one report may state the breast (C50.9) is the site of the primary while another report records the lower-inner quadrant of the breast (C50.3) as the primary site; record C50.3 here as the

primary site.

Collection methods: This information should be obtained from the patient's medical record.

Comments: The information is collected so that tumours can be classified into clinically relevant

groups based on their primary site and histological type. This provides a basis for staging and the determination of treatment options. The primary site of the cancer

also affects the course of the disease and prognosis.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: World Health Organization. (2013). International classification of diseases for

oncology (ICD-O), 3rd ed., 1st revision. World Health Organization. https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/96612

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes Person with cancer—primary site of cancer, topography code (ICD-O-

3) ANN.N

Health, Standard 07/12/2011

Has been superseded by Person with cancer—primary site of cancer, topography

code (ICD-O-3.2) ANN.N

Health, Qualified 03/08/2023