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# Functioning

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**Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>**

## *Identifying and Definitional Attributes*

Data Dictionary: NCSDD  
Knowledgebase ID: 000855                      Version number: 1  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT  
Admin status: SUPERSEDED                      Effective date: 01-MAR-05  
Definition: Functioning is the umbrella term for any or all of: body functions, structures, activities and participation. Functioning is a multidimensional concept denoting the neutral aspects of the interaction between an individual (with a health condition) and that individual's environmental and personal factors.  
Context: An individual's functioning in a specific domain is an interaction or complex relationship between health conditions and environmental and personal factors. Functioning and disability are dual concepts in a broad framework, with disability focussing on the more negative aspects of this interaction.

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype:  
Related metadata:    relates to the data element Body structures version 1  
                          relates to the data element concept Disability version 2  
                          relates to the data element concept Activity - functioning, disability and health version 1  
                          relates to the data element concept Participation - functioning, disability and health version 1  
                          relates to the data element concept Assistance with activities and participation version 1  
                          relates to the data element Body functions version 2  
                          relates to the data element Impairment extent version 2  
                          relates to the data element Activities and participation domains version 2  
                          relates to the data element Activity - level of difficulty version 2  
                          relates to the data element Participation extent version 2  
                          relates to the data element Participation satisfaction level version 2  
                          relates to the data element Environmental factors version 2  
                          relates to the data element Environmental factors - extent of influence version 2

relates to the data element Disability grouping version 2

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### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: World Health Organization (WHO) 2001. ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO.  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2003. ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0. Canberra: AIHW.

Source Organisation: World Health Organization

Comments: This metadata item is based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). The ICF was endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2001 and is a core member of the WHO family of health related classifications. Further information on the ICF can be found in the ICF itself and the ICF Australian User Guide (AIHW 2003) and the following websites:

- Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.html>

- WHO ICF website:

<http://www3.who.int/icf/icftemplate.cfm>

The ICF provides a framework for the description of human functioning. The components of the ICF are defined in relation to a health condition. A health condition is an 'umbrella term for disease (acute or chronic), disorder, injury or trauma' (WHO 2001).

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### *Data Element Links*

#### *Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

NCSIM    Functional characteristic

#### *Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

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