
Activity - functioning, disability and health

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: 000856 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT CONCEPT
Admin status: SUPERSEDED Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: In the context of health, an activity is the execution of a task or action by an individual. Activity limitations are difficulties an individual has in the execution of an activity.
Context: The performance of an activity is what the individual does in his or her current environment. The environment includes all aspects of the physical, social and attitudinal world. Activity limitation varies with the environment and is assessed in relation to a particular environment and in the absence or presence of assistance, including aids and equipment.
'Activities and participation' is one of three components that define the concept 'Disability', along with 'Body functions and structures' and 'Environmental factors'. 'Activities and participation' is also encompassed within the concept 'Functioning'.
The concept 'Activity', as defined here and as measured in the data element 'Activity-level of difficulty', may be relevant to people and human services not related to disability. In time, a related and more generic data element may be developed. In the meantime, the addition of 'functioning, disability and health' to the name of the data element concept indicates that the current concept is based on the concept and framework developed by World Health Organization to assist in the classification and description of functioning and disability, as contained in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

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 Functioning 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

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

Comment: 'Activities and Participation' is one of three components in the ICF that define disability. The ICF recognises two constructs that can be used with 'Activities and Participation': performance and capacity. 'Performance' is what the person does in their usual environment. 'Capacity' describes 'an individual's ability to execute a task or an action', and the ICF recommends it be assessed in a standardised environment, where a standardised environment may be (a) an actual environment commonly used for assessment in test settings; or (b) in cases where this is not possible, an assumed environment which can be thought to have a uniform impact' (WHO 2001). 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 and the following websites:

- Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website
<http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.html>
- WHO ICF website:

