

Person—waist circumference

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Person—waist circumference

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element Concept
METEOR identifier:	269666
Registration status:	Health! , Standard 01/03/2005
Definition:	A person's waist circumference measured half way between the inferior margin of the last rib and the crest of the ilium in the mid-axillary plane.
Context:	Public health, health care and clinical settings: Originally used in the calculation of Waist-to-hip ratio which requires the measurement of hip circumference and waist circumference as a predictor of obesity-related morbidity and mortality. More recently it has been used in its own right as an indicator of risk associated with excess abdominal fat.

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class:	Person
Definition:	A human being.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments:	Prior to 13 March 2018, the definition of the 'Person' Object class was 'A human being, whether man, woman or child'. From 13 March 2018, the definition was edited by removing the words '...whether man, woman or child' so that a person is defined as 'A human being'. This amendment was undertaken to align the definition of a person with the <i>Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender</i> and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) <i>Standard for Sex and Gender Variables</i> , which recognise that there are sex and gender types that are not exclusively male or female.
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Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Origin:	Macquarie University 2003. <i>The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.</i> Sydney: The Macquarie Library Pty. Ltd
Reference documents:	Attorney-General's Department 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender. Viewed 26 July 2016, https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. Standard for Sex and Gender Variables, 2016. ABS Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 26 July 2016, Main+Features12016?OpenDocument">http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property:	Waist circumference
Definition:	The distance around the human body between the ribs and the hips.
Property group:	Physical characteristics

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data element concept attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: This metadata item applies to persons of all ages.

There is evidence that waist circumference alone might be used to identify people at health risk both from being overweight and from having a central fat distribution (Lean et al. 1995; Han et al. 1995; Pouliot et al. 1994; Seidell et al. 1992). It has been suggested that waist circumference as an index of truncal adiposity in adults may have certain advantages over other measurements of adiposity in predicting obesity related diseases. However, among children and adolescents, waist circumference measures should only be used as a measure of variation in an individual. As yet, no age appropriate cut-off points indicative of risk factors have been developed for use among children and adolescents.

Relational attributes

**Data Elements
implementing this Data
Element Concept:**

[Person—waist circumference \(measured\), total centimetres NN\[N\].N
Health!, Standard 01/03/2005](#)