



The date of diagnosis is the date of the pathology report, if any, that first confirmed the diagnosis of cancer. This date may be found attached to a letter of referral or a patient's medical record from another institution or hospital. If this date is unavailable, or if no pathological test was done, then the date may be determined from one of the sources listed in the following sequence:

Date of the consultation at, or admission to, the hospital, clinic or institution when the cancer was first diagnosed. Note: DO NOT use the admission date of the current admission if the patient had a prior diagnosis of this cancer.

Date of first diagnosis as stated by a recognised medical practitioner or dentist. Note: This date may be found attached to a letter of referral or a patient's medical record from an institution or hospital.

Date the patient states they were first diagnosed with cancer. Note: This may be the only date available in a few cases (for example, patient was first diagnosed in a foreign country).

If components of the date are not known, an estimate should be provided where possible with an estimated date flag to indicate that it is estimated. If an estimated date is not possible, a standard date of 15 June 1900 should be used with a flag to indicate the date is not known.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Estimated date flag version 1  
relates to the data element Date of birth version 4

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### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: Modified from the definition presented by the New South Wales Inpatient Statistics Collection Manual 2000/2001

Source Organisation: International Agency for Research on Cancer  
World Health Organization  
International Association of Cancer Registries.

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### *Data Element Links*

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

NHIM Request for / entry into service event

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

DSS - Cancer (clinical) From 04-Jun-04 to

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