
Health professionals attended - diabetes mellitus

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Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000804 Version number: 1

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration Authority: NHIMG

Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: The health professionals that a person has attended in the last 12 months in relation to issues arising from diabetes mellitus.

Context: Diabetes (clinical) specific data element.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational form: CODE

Representation layout: N(NNNN)

Minimum Size: 1

Maximum Size: 5

Data Domain:	1	Diabetes educator
	2	Dietitian
	3	Ophthalmologist
	4	Optometrist
	5	Podiatrist
	8	None of the above
	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Guide For Use: Record a code sequentially for each health professional attended. A person may have attended several health professionals in the last 12 months, therefore, more than one code can be recorded sequentially.

Example 1: If a person has attended a diabetes educator and a podiatrist in the last twelve months, the code recorded would be 15.

Example 2: If all have been seen, the code recorded would be

12345.

Collection Methods: The person should be asked about each type of health professional in successive questions, as follows:

Have you attended any of the following health professionals in relation to diabetes mellitus in the last 12 months?

Diabetes educator Yes No

Dietitian Yes No

Ophthalmologist Yes No

Optometrist Yes No

Podiatrist Yes No

The appropriate code should be recorded for each health professional attended.

If the person answers 'NO' to all the health professionals specified, then code 8 should be applied.

Code 9 should only be used in situations where it is not practicable to ask the questions.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Occupation of person version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary.

Source Organisation: National Diabetes Data Working Group

Comments: The health professional occupations are assigned the following codes at the occupation level of the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1997, Catalogue No. 1220.0

Diabetic educator 2512-13

Dietitian 2393-11

Ophthalmologist 2312-19

Optometrist 2384-11

Podiatrist 2388-11

Management of diabetes requires a team approach, comprising selected health professionals, to provide services specific to the individual with diabetes.

All patients with diabetes require diet therapy in conjunction with exercise and/or medication to achieve optimal control of blood glucose, body weight and blood lipids. In insulin treated diabetics,

diet management aims to restrict variations in the timing, size or composition of meals that could result in hypoglycaemia or postprandial hyperglycaemia. Based on the Healthy Eating Pyramid, meals should be low in saturated fat, and rich in high-fibre carbohydrates with low glycaemic index (GI). Saturated fats have to be replaced with monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats.

According to the Principles of Care and Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Diabetes Mellitus, a comprehensive ophthalmological examination should be carried out:

- At diagnosis and then every 1-2 years for patients whose diabetes onset was at age 30 years or more
- Within five years of diagnosis and then every 1-2 years for patients whose diabetes onset was at age less than 30 years.

Principles of Care and Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Diabetes Mellitus recommendations include:

- Foot examination to be performed every 6 months or at every visit if high risk foot or active foot problem
- Refer to specialists experienced in the care of the diabetic foot if infection or ulceration is present
- To identify the 'high risk foot' as indicated by a past history of foot problems, especially ulceration, and/or the presence of peripheral neuropathy, peripheral vascular disease, or foot deformity and history of previous ulceration
- Ensure that patients with 'high risk foot' or an active foot problem receive appropriate care from specialists and podiatrists expert in the treatment of diabetic foot problems.

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 - Diabetes (clinical) From 01-Jan-03 to
