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# DSS - Health care client identification

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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>

**Start date:** 01-JAN-03

**End date:**

**Scope:** The collection of data based on this metadata set is voluntary.

The data elements specified in this metadata set provide a framework for improving the positive identification of persons in health care organisations.

This metadata set applies in respect of all potential or actual clients of the Australian health care system. It defines demographic and other identifying data elements suited to capture and use for person identification in health care settings.

The objectives in collecting the data elements in this metadata set are to promote uniformly good practice in-

- (a) identifying individuals; and
- (b) recording identifying data so as to ensure that each individual's health records will be associated with that individual and no other.

The process of positively identifying people within a health care service delivery context entails matching data supplied by those individuals against data the service provider holds about them.

The positive and unique identification of health care clients is a critical event in health service delivery, with direct implications for the safety and quality of health care.

There are many barriers to successfully identifying individuals in health care settings, including variable data quality; differing data capture requirements and mechanisms; and varying data matching methods. These definitions provide a base for improving the confidence of health service providers and clients alike that the data being associated with any given individual, and upon which clinical decisions are made, is appropriately associated.

## **Collection**

**methodology:** This metadata set is primarily concerned with the clinical use of Health care client identification data. It should be used by health and health related establishments that create, use or maintain, records on health care clients. Establishments should use this metadata set, where appropriate,

for collecting data when registering health care clients or potential health care clients.

**National reporting arrangements:**

Collectors of this metadata set should refer to relevant privacy legislation, codes of fair information practice and other guidelines so as not to breach personal privacy in their collection, use, storage and disclosure of health care client information. There is no comprehensive privacy legislation covering both the public and private sectors across Australia so users need to consider their particular set of circumstances (i.e. location and sector) and whether privacy legislation covers those circumstances. A Commonwealth legislative scheme applies to the private sector. Users may refer to the Federal Privacy Commissioner's web site for assistance in complying with their privacy obligations. In the public sector, in instances where no legislation, code of fair information practice or other guidelines covers the particular circumstances, users should refer to AS 4400 Personal privacy protection in health care information systems.

Public sector agencies should refer to relevant legislation and regulations pertaining to State and Territory records so as not to breach their obligations regarding the creation and retention of public records.

**Scope links with other metadata sets:**

Collection of information in national minimum data sets.

Source organisation:  
Standards Australia Inc.

**Comments:** Data element Address line, version 1 is in DRAFT status. This data element may be viewed on the Knowledgebase.

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***Data elements linked to this Data set specification***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Data</b>	<b>Reg.</b>	<b>ID</b>	<b>Vers</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Current</b>
Address	NHDD	NHIMG	000799	2	Data Element Concept	Current
Address line	NHDD	NHIMG	000786	1	Data Element	Current
Address type	NHDD	NHIMG	000801	1	Data Element	Current

Australian State/Territory identifier	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002025	4	Data Element	Current
Birth order	NHDD	NHIMG	000019	2	Data Element	Current
Birth plurality	NHDD	NHIMG	000020	1	Data Element	Current
Building/complex sub-unit number	NHDD	NHIMG	001007	1	Data Element	Current
Building/complex sub-unit type - abbreviation	NHDD	NHIMG	001008	1	Data Element	Current
Building/property name	NHDD	NHIMG	001009	1	Data Element	Current
Centrelink customer reference number	NHDD	NHIMG	000797	1	Data Element	Current
Country of birth	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002004	4	Data Element	Current
Date of birth	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002005	5	Data Element	Current
Establishment identifier	NHDD	NHIMG	000050	4	Derived Data Element	Current
Establishment number	NHDD	NHIMG	000377	4	Data Element	Current
Estimated date flag	NHDD	NHIMG	000431	1	Data Element	Current
Family name	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002007	2	Data Element	Current
Floor/level number	NHDD	NHIMG	001010	1	Data Element	Current
Floor/level type	NHDD	NHIMG	001011	1	Data Element	Current
Given name(s)	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002008	2	Data Element	Current
House/property number	NHDD	NHIMG	001012	1	Data Element	Current
Indigenous status	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002009	5	Data Element	Current
Lot/section number	NHDD	NHIMG	001013	1	Data Element	Current
Medicare card number	NHDD	NHIMG	000091	2	Data Element	Current
Mother's original family name	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002015	2	Data Element	Current

Name	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	000835	1	Data Element Concept	Current
Name context flag	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002016	2	Data Element	Current
Name suffix	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002017	2	Data Element	Current
Name title	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002018	2	Data Element	Current
Name type	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	000784	1	Data Element	Current
Person identifier	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002020	2	Data Element	Current
Person identifier type - health care	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	000841	1	Data Element	Current
Postal delivery point identifier	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002022	2	Data Element	Current
Postal delivery service number	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	001018	1	Data Element	Current
Postal delivery service type - abbreviation	NHDD	NHIMG	001017	1	Data Element	Current
Postcode - Australian	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002021	3	Data Element	Current
Region code	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	000378	2	Data Element	Current
Sex	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002024	4	Data Element	Current
State/Territory of birth	NHDD NHDD	NHIMG	000155	1	Data Element	Current
Street name	NHDD	NHIMG	001014	1	Data Element	Current
Street suffix code	NHDD	NHIMG	001015	1	Data Element	Current
Street type code	NHDD	NHIMG	001016	1	Data Element	Current
Suburb/ town/ locality name	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002026	2	Data Element	Current
Telephone number	Int. NCSDD & NHDD	NCSIMG & NHIMG	002027	2	Data Element	Current

Telephone number type

Int. NCSIMG 002028  
NCSDD & NHIMG  
NHDD

2 Data  
Element

Current