Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 5th ed) code XX

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Cancer staging—N stage code
METEOR identifier:	293254
Registration status:	Health!, Superseded 06/03/2009
Definition:	Extent of regional lymph node metastasis at the time of diagnosis of the primary cancer, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status
Value Domain:	N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 5th ed) code XX

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Classification scheme:	International Union against Cancer TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 5th edition
Representation class:	Code
Data type:	String
Format:	XX
Maximum character length:	2

	Value	Meaning
Supplementary values:	88	Not applicable

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Valid N codes from the current edition of the UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours. Refer to the UICC reference manual, TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours for coding rules.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Choose the lower (less advanced) N category when there is any uncertainty.
Collection methods:	From information provided by the treating doctor and recorded on the patient's medical record.

Comments: Cancer prognosis and survival can be related to the extent of the disease at diagnosis. Survival rates are generally higher if the disease is localised to the organ of origin compared with cases in which the tumour has spread beyond the primary site.

Staging systems seek to classify patients having a similar prognosis into groups or stages. TNM staging is an internationally agreed staging classification system based on the anatomical site of the primary tumour and its extent of spread. The T component refers to the size of the tumour and whether or not it has spread to surrounding tissues. The N component describes the presence or absence of tumour in regional lymph nodes. The M component refers to the presence or absence of tumour at sites distant from the primary site.

TNM staging applies to solid tumours excluding brain tumours.

Source and reference attributes

Reference documents: Commission on Cancer, Standards of the Commission on Cancer Registry Operations and Data Standards (ROADS) Volume II (1998).

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Person with cancer—regional lymph node metastasis status, N stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 6th ed) code XX](#)
Health!, Superseded 07/12/2011

Is used in the formation of [Person with cancer—extent of primary cancer, TNM stage (UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 5th ed) code XXXX{[X]XX}](#)
Health!, Superseded 06/03/2009

Is re-engineered from [Cancer staging - N stage code, version 1, DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (15.5 KB)
No registration status

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Cancer (clinical) DSS](#)
Health!, Superseded 07/12/2005
DSS specific information:

For survival analysis adjusted by stage at diagnosis and distribution of cancer cases by type and stage.

[Cancer (clinical) DSS](#)
Health!, Superseded 06/03/2009
Conditional obligation: Collection of this data element is conditional on the disease site being listed in the UICC TNM classification.
DSS specific information:

For survival analysis adjusted by stage at diagnosis and distribution of cancer cases by type and stage.