# Person—severe hypoglycaemia indicator, code N

## Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

# Person—severe hypoglycaemia indicator, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Metadata item type:** | Data Element |
| **Short name:** | Hypoglycaemia - severe |
| **METEOR identifier:** | 302825 |
| **Registration status:** | Health!, Standard 21/09/2005 |
| **Definition:** | Whether a person has had **severe hypoglycaemia**, as represented by a code. |
| **Data Element Concept:** | Person—severe hypoglycaemia indicator |
| **Value Domain:** | Yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N |

# Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Representation class:** | Code | |
| **Data type:** | Number | |
| **Format:** | N | |
| **Maximum character length:** | 1 | |
| | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| **Permissible values:** | 1 | Yes |
| | 2 | No |
| **Supplementary values:** | 9 | Not stated/inadequately described |

## Collection and usage attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Guide for use:** | CODE 9 Not stated/inadequately described<br><br>This code is not for use in primary data collections. |

# Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Guide for use:** | CODE 1 Yes<br>Record if the person has a history of severe hypoglycaemia.<br><br>CODE 2 No<br>Record if the person has no history of severe hypoglycaemia. |
| **Collection methods:** | Ask the individual if he/she has had a severe hypoglycaemia requiring assistance. Alternatively obtain the relevant information from appropriate documentation. |
| **Comments:** | The medications used in the treatment of diabetes may cause the blood glucose value to fall below the normal range and this is called hypoglycaemia. |

## Source and reference attributes

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|---|---|
| **Submitting organisation:** | National diabetes data working group |
| **Origin:** | National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary. |

**Reference documents:** Definition corresponds with the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT): DCCT New England Journal of Medicine, 329(14), September 30, 1993. Report of the Health Care Committee Expert Panel on Diabetes; Commonwealth of Australia 1991; ISBN 0644143207.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes Person—severe hypoglycaemia history, status code N Health!, Superseded 21/09/2005

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** Diabetes (clinical) NBPDS Health!, Standard 21/09/2005

***DSS specific information:***

Most hypoglycaemic reactions, however, do not cause long term problems, but the risks of permanent injury to the brain are greater in children under the age of 5 years, the elderly with associated cerebrovascular disease and patients with other medical conditions such as cirrhosis and coeliac disease. The serious consequences of hypoglycaemia relate to its effects on the brain. Rarely hypoglycaemia may cause death.

It is important to know how to recognise and react when someone is unconscious from hypoglycaemia. These people should be placed on their side and the airway checked so that breathing is unhampered and nothing should be given by mouth as food may enter the breathing passages. Treatment needs to be given by injection - either glucagon (a hormone which raises the blood glucose by mobilising liver stores) or glucose itself. Glucagon should be given by injection (usually intramuscular) at a dose of 0.5 units (or mg) in children under the age of 5 years and 1.0 units (mg) for all older age groups.

All diabetic patients at risk of developing hypoglycaemia should have glucagon at home. Their families need to be shown how to administer it in times of severe hypoglycaemia.