

# Impairment nature code (ICF 2001) N

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## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Value Domain
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Body structure nature of change
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	320628
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Standard 16/10/2006 <a href="#">Health!</a> , Standard 29/11/2006 <a href="#">Disability</a> , Standard 13/08/2015
<b>Definition:</b>	A code set representing the nature of the change in a specified body structure in the <i>Body Structures</i> component of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF 2001).
<b>Context:</b>	Human functioning and disability.

## Representational attributes

<b>Classification scheme:</b>	<a href="#">International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health 2001</a>
<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1

	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Permissible values:</b>	0	No change in structure
	1	Total absence
	2	Partial absence
	3	Additional part
	4	Aberrant dimensions
	5	Discontinuity
	6	Deviating position
	7	Qualitative changes in structure
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	8	Not specified
	9	Not applicable

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

This metadata item contributes to the definition of the concept '[Disability](#)' and gives an indication of the experience of disability for a person.

[Impairments of body structure](#) are problems in body structure such as a loss or significant departure from population standards or averages.

CODE 0 No change in structure

Used when the structure of the body part is within the range of the population standard.

CODE 1 Total absence

Used when the body structure is not present. For example total absence of the structures of the lower leg following a thorough knee amputation.

CODE 2 Partial absence

Used when only part of a body structure is present. For example partial absence of the bones of the lower leg following below knee amputation.

CODE 3 Additional part

Used when a structure, not usually present in the population is present, for example a sixth lumbar vertebra or an sixth digit on one hand.

CODE 4 Aberrant dimensions

Used when the shape and size of a body structure is significantly different from the population standard. For example radial aplasia where the shape and size of the radial bone does not develop.

CODE 5 Discontinuity

Used when parts of a body structure are separated, for example cleft palate or fracture.

CODE 6 Deviating position

Used when the location of a structure is not according to population standard; for example, transposition of the great vessels, where the aorta arises from the right ventricle and the pulmonary vessels from the left ventricle.

CODE 7 Qualitative changes in structure

Used when the structure of a body part is altered from the population standard. This includes accumulation of fluid, changes in bone structure as a result of osteoporosis or Paget's disease.

CODE 8 Not specified

Used when there is a change to a body structure, but the nature of the change is not described.

CODE 9 Not applicable

Used when it is not appropriate to code the nature of the change to a body structure.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) which is the Australian Collaborating Centre for the World Health Organization Family of International Classifications.

**Origin:** WHO 2001. ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Geneva: WHO

AIHW 2003. ICF Australian User Guide Version 1.0. Canberra: AIHW

**Reference documents:** Further information on the ICF, including more detailed codes, can be found in the ICF itself and the ICF Australian User Guide (AIHW 2003), at the following websites:

- WHO ICF website  
<http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/en/>
- Australian Collaborating Centre ICF website  
<http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/icf/index.cfm>

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Impairment nature code \(ICF 2001\) N Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 16/10/2006

**Data elements implementing this value domain:** [Person—nature of impairment of body structure, code \(ICF 2001\) N Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 16/10/2006  
[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015  
[Health!](#), Standard 29/11/2006