

# Person—sex, code A

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# Person—sex, code A

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Patient sex code
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	PER_GENDER_CODE; SEX
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	573225
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">WA Health</a> , Standard 19/03/2015
<b>Definition:</b>	The biological distinction between male and female, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—sex</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Sex code A</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code	
<b>Data type:</b>	String	
<b>Format:</b>	A	
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1	
	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Permissible values:</b>	M	Male
	F	Female
	I	Indeterminate
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	U	Unknown
	N	Not specified

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	CODE I Indeterminate
	Intersex or indeterminate, refers to a person, who because of a genetic condition, was born with reproductive organs or sex chromosomes that are not exclusively male or female or whose sex has not yet been determined for whatever reason.
<b>Comments:</b>	The definition for Intersex in Guide for use is sourced from the ACT Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003.

## Source and reference attributes

<b>Origin:</b>	Australian Capital Territory 2003. Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003
<b>Reference documents:</b>	Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003. See <a href="http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2003-14/20030328-4969/pdf/2003-14.pdf">http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2003-14/20030328-4969/pdf/2003-14.pdf</a> .

## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

This data item is mandatory for national reporting, using the data element:

[Person-sex, code N](#)

Local codes are mapped to national codes for reporting purposes:

Local codes (NAPAAWL codes)	National codes
M Male	1 Male
F Female	2 Female
I Indeterminate	3 Intersex or indeterminate
U Unknown	9 Not stated/inadequately described
N Not specified	

The synonymous name PER\_GENDER\_CODE is used for local reporting purposes.

The nationally reported data element has the synonymous name SEX.

**Collection methods:**

Operationally, sex is the distinction between male and female, as reported by a person or as determined by an interviewer.

When collecting data on sex by personal interview, asking the sex of the respondent is usually unnecessary and may be inappropriate, or even offensive. It is usually a simple matter to infer the sex of the respondent through observation, or from other cues such as the relationship of the person(s) accompanying the respondent, or first name. The interviewer may ask whether persons not present at the interview are male or female.

A person's sex may change during their lifetime as a result of procedures known alternatively as sex change, gender reassignment, transsexual surgery, transgender reassignment or sexual reassignment. Throughout this process, which may be over a considerable period of time, the person's sex could be recorded as either Male or Female.

In data collections that use the ICD-10-AM classification, where sex change is the reason for admission, diagnoses should include the appropriate ICD-10-AM code(s) that clearly identify that the person is undergoing such a process. This code(s) would also be applicable after the person has completed such a process, if they have a procedure involving an organ(s) specific to their previous sex (e.g. where the patient has prostate or ovarian cancer).

**CODE I Indeterminate**

Is normally used for babies for whom sex has not been determined for whatever reason.

Should not generally be used on data collection forms completed by the respondent.

Should only be used if the person or respondent volunteers that the person is intersex or where it otherwise becomes clear during the collection process that the individual is neither male nor female.

**CODE U and CODE N Unknown/Not specified**

Is not to be used on primary collection forms. It is primarily for use in administrative collections when transferring data from data sets where the item has not been collected.

**Source and reference attributes**

**Origin:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)  
National Mortality Database 1997/98 AIHW 2001  
National Diabetes Register, Statistical Profile, December 2000 (Diabetes Series No. 2)

**Reference documents:** Australian Bureau of Statistics  
AS4846 Health Care Provider Identification, 2004, Sydney: Standards Australia  
AS5017 Health Care Client Identification, 2002, Sydney: Standards Australia  
In AS4846 and AS5017 alternative codes are presented. Refer to the current standard for more details.

## Relational attributes

### Related metadata references:

See also [Person—sex, code N](#)  
[Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 25/08/2005  
[Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014  
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018  
[Health!](#), Superseded 11/05/2017  
[Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018  
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006  
[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 16/10/2017  
[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

See also [Person—sex, code X](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018  
[Health!](#), Superseded 15/02/2022  
[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018  
[Indigenous](#), Standard 16/10/2017

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [WA Health Non-Admitted Patient Activity and Wait List Data Collection \(NAPAAWL DC\) 2013-14](#)

[WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015

**DSS specific information:**

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting in the:

[Non-admitted patient DSS 2013-14](#)

[Activity based funding: Non-admitted patient care DSS 2013-2014](#)

It is reported nationally using the data element:

[Person-sex, code N](#)

[WA Health Non-Admitted Patient Activity and Wait List Data Collection \(NAPAAWL DC\) 2014-15](#)

[WA Health](#), Standard 24/04/2015

**DSS specific information:**

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting in the:

[Non-admitted patient DSS 2014-15](#)

It is reported nationally using the data element:

[Person-sex, code N](#)

[WA Health Non-Admitted Patient Activity and Wait List Data Collection \(NAPAAWL DC\) 2016-17](#)

[WA Health](#), Standard 30/05/2017

**DSS specific information:**

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting in the:

[Non-admitted patient NBEDS 2016-17](#)

It is reported nationally against the data element:

[Person-sex, code N](#)