Admitted patient care NMDS 2016-17

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# Admitted patient care NMDS 2016-17

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| Seq No. | Metadata item | METEOR identifier | Data Type [Length] | Value & Meaning |
| - | [Elective surgery waiting times cluster](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/605098) | 605098 |   |   |
|       - | [Listing date for care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269957) | 269957 | Date/Time
[8] | DDMMYYYYThe day of a particular month and year. |
|       - | [Clinical urgency](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/598034) | 598034 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Procedures that are clinically indicated within 30 days |
| 2  | Procedures that are clinically indicated within 90 days |
| 3  | Procedures that are clinically indicated within 365 days |

 |
|       - | [Intended procedure](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/637500) | 637500 | String
[3] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 001  | Cataract extraction (with or without intra-ocular lens insertion) |
| 002  | Cholecystectomy (open/laparoscopic) |
| 003  | Coronary artery bypass grafting |
| 004  | Cystoscopy |
| 005  | Haemorrhoidectomy |
| 006  | Hysterectomy (abdominal/vaginal/laparoscopic) |
| 007  | Inguinal herniotomy/herniorrhaphy |
| 008  | Myringoplasty/tympanoplasty |
| 010  | Prostatectomy (transurethral or open) |
| 011  | Septoplasty |
| 012  | Tonsillectomy (with or without adenoidectomy) |
| 013  | Total hip replacement |
| 014  | Total knee replacement |
| 015  | Varicose veins treatment |
| 016  | Myringotomy (without insertion of grommets) |
| 017  | Pressure equalising tubes (grommets) - insertion of  |
| 018  | Abdominal or thoracic aortic aneurysm - repair/replacement |
| 019  | Acromioplasty/arthroscopy shoulder/sub acromial decompression |
| 020  | Adenoidectomy |
| 021  | Amputation of limb |
| 022  | Anal fissure - repair of |
| 023  | Anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction |
| 024  | Arthrodesis |
| 025  | Arthroplasty - revision of |
| 026  | Arthroscopy |
| 028  | Axillary node dissection |
| 029  | Bartholin's abscess drainage |
| 030  | Bartholin's cyst - removal of |
| 031  | Bladder neck incision |
| 032  | Blepharoplasty |
| 033  | Branchial apparatus remnant - removal of |
| 034  | Breast lump - excision and/or biopsy |
| 035  | Breast prosthesis - removal of |
| 036  | Breast reconstruction |
| 037  | Breast reduction |
| 038  | Bunion (hallux valgus) - removal of |
| 039  | Carotid endarterectomy |
| 040  | Carpal tunnel release |
| 041  | Cerebral haematoma - evacuation of |
| 042  | Cervical discectomy and fusion  |
| 043  | Chalazion - excision of |
| 044  | Chiari malformation decompression |
| 045  | Circumcision |
| 046  | Cleft lip and palate - repair of |
| 047  | Colectomy/anterior resection/large bowel resection |
| 048  | Common peroneal nerve release |
| 049  | Cone biopsy |
| 050  | Congenital cardiac defect/s – procedure for |
| 051  | Congenital pulmonary lesion - removal of |
| 052  | Corneal graft |
| 053  | Cranioplasty |
| 054  | Craniotomy  |
| 055  | Curettage and evacuation of uterus |
| 056  | Cystectomy |
| 057  | Dacryocystorhinostomy |
| 058  | Dermoid cyst - removal of |
| 059  | Dialysis access surgery |
| 060  | Diathermy of wart/s |
| 061  | Discectomy |
| 062  | Dupytren’s contracture release |
| 063  | Ectropion - correction of |
| 064  | Endometrial ablation |
| 065  | Epididymal cyst - removal of |
| 066  | Ethmoidectomy |
| 067  | Examination of eye under anaesthesia |
| 068  | Exostosis - excision of |
| 069  | Female sterilisation |
| 070  | Femoro-popliteal bypass graft |
| 071  | Fracture non-union - treatment of |
| 072  | Functional endoscopic sinus surgery |
| 073  | Fundoplication |
| 074  | Ganglion - excision of |
| 075  | Hammer/claw/mallet toe - correction of |
| 076  | Heart valve replacement |
| 077  | Herniorrhaphy |
| 078  | Hydrocele - repair of |
| 079  | Hypospadias - repair of |
| 080  | Hysteroscopy, dilatation and curettage |
| 081  | Insertion of ventricular peritoneal shunt |
| 082  | Laminectomy |
| 083  | Laparoscopy |
| 084  | Large loop excision of the transformation zone cervix (LLETZ) |
| 085  | Laryngectomy |
| 086  | Lingual or maxillary frenulum surgery |
| 087  | Lithotripsy |
| 088  | Lobectomy/wedge resection/pneumonectomy |
| 089  | Lymphangioma - surgery for |
| 090  | Mastectomy |
| 091  | Mastoidectomy |
| 092  | Meatoplasty |
| 093  | Meniscectomy |
| 094  | Microlaryngoscopy |
| 095  | Muscle biopsy/temporal artery biopsy |
| 096  | Muscle or tendon length - change of |
| 097  | Myomectomy |
| 098  | Nasal cautery |
| 099  | Nasal polypectomy |
| 100  | Nasendoscopy |
| 101  | Neonatal surgery |
| 102  | Nephrectomy  |
| 103  | Nerve decompression |
| 104  | Nerve decompression of spinal cord |
| 105  | Orchidectomy |
| 106  | Orchidopexy |
| 107  | Osteotomy |
| 108  | Parathyroidectomy |
| 109  | Parotidectomy/submandibular gland - excision of |
| 110  | Pectus surgery |
| 111  | Pedicle screw fusion |
| 112  | Pharyngoplasty |
| 113  | Pharynx - excision of |
| 114  | Pilonidal sinus surgery |
| 115  | Pleurodesis |
| 116  | Posterior fossa decompression |
| 117  | Probing of naso-lacrimal duct |
| 118  | Procedure for strabismus (squint repair) |
| 119  | Prostate biopsy |
| 120  | Pterygium - excision of |
| 121  | Ptosis - repair of |
| 122  | Pyeloplasty/correction of ureteropelvic junction |
| 123  | Pyogenic granuloma - removal of |
| 124  | Radical neck dissection |
| 125  | Repair of obstructing hiatus hernia |
| 126  | Replacement of aortic aneurysm with bifurcation graft |
| 127  | Removal of intracranial lesion |
| 128  | Rhinoplasty |
| 129  | Rotator cuff - repair of |
| 130  | Salpingo-oophorectomy/oophorectomy/ovarian cystectomy |
| 131  | Scar revision |
| 132  | Shoulder joint replacement |
| 133  | Shoulder reconstruction |
| 134  | Skin lesion - excision of |
| 135  | Stapedectomy |
| 136  | Stone/s urinary tract - removal of |
| 137  | Stress incontinence surgery |
| 138  | Sub-mucosal resection |
| 139  | Tendon release |
| 140  | Tenotomy of hip |
| 141  | Thyroglossal remnant - removal of |
| 142  | Thyroidectomy/hemi-thyroidectomy |
| 143  | Toenail surgery |
| 144  | Trabeculectomy |
| 145  | Trigger finger/thumb release |
| 146  | Turbinectomy |
| 147  | Untethering of spinal cord |
| 148  | Ureteric - reimplantation  |
| 149  | Ureteric stent - insertion of |
| 150  | Urethra - dilatation of |
| 151   | Vaginal repair - anterior/posterior |
| 152  | Vitrectomy (including buckling/cryotherapy) |
| 888  | Other |

 |
|       - | [Overdue patient](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613691)  | 613691 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Overdue patient |
| 2  | Other |

 |
|       - | [Reason for removal from elective surgery waiting list](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/471735) | 471735 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Admitted as an elective patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory |
| 2  | Admitted as an emergency patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory |
| 3  | Could not be contacted (includes patients who have died while waiting, whether or not the cause of death was related to the condition requiring treatment) |
| 4  | Treated elsewhere for awaited procedure, but not on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory |
| 5  | Surgery not required or declined |
| 6  | Transferred to another hospital's waiting list |
| 9  | Not known |

 |
|       - | [Surgical specialty](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/605195) | 605195 | String
[2] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 01  | Cardio-thoracic surgery |
| 02  | Otolaryngology head and neck surgery |
| 03  | General surgery |
| 04  | Gynaecology surgery |
| 05  | Neurosurgery |
| 06  | Ophthalmology surgery |
| 07  | Orthopaedic surgery |
| 08  | Plastic and reconstructive surgery |
| 09  | Urological surgery |
| 10  | Vascular surgery |
| 11  | Other |
| 12  | Paediatric surgery |

 |
|       - | [Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/598074) | 598074 | Number
[4] | N[NNN]Total number of days. |
|       - | [Establishment identifier](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269973) | 269973 | String
[9] | NNX[X]NNNNNA combination of numeric and alphanumeric characters that identify an entity. |
| - | [Australian postcode (address)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/429894) | 429894 | Number
[4] | {NNNN}The Postcode datafile code set representing Australian postcodes as defined by Australia Post. |
| - | [Contract establishment identifier](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270013) | 270013 | String
[9] | NNX[X]NNNNNA combination of numeric and alphanumeric characters that identify an entity. |
| - | [Referral destination to further care (psychiatric patients)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269990) | 269990 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Not referred |
| 2  | Private psychiatrist |
| 3  | Other private medical practitioner |
| 4  | Mental health/alcohol and drug in-patient facility |
| 5  | Mental health/alcohol and drug non in-patient facility |
| 6  | Acute hospital |
| 7  | Other |

 |
| - | [Number of qualified days for newborns](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270033) | 270033 | Number
[5] | N[NNNN]Total number of days. |
| - | [Admission date](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269967) | 269967 | Date/Time
[8] | DDMMYYYYThe day of a particular month and year. |
| - | [Mode of admission](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269976) | 269976 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Admitted patient transferred from another hospital |
| 2  | Statistical admission - episode type change |
| 3  | Other |

 |
| - | [Urgency of admission](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269986) | 269986 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Urgency status assigned - emergency |
| 2  | Urgency status assigned - elective |
| 3  | Urgency status not assigned |
| 9  | Not known/not reported |

 |
| - | [Condition onset flag](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/496512) | 496512 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Condition with onset during the episode of admitted patient care |
| 2  | Condition not noted as arising during the episode of admitted patient care  |
| 9  | Not reported |

 |
| - | [Duration of continuous ventilatory support](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/479010) | 479010 | Number
[4] | NNNNTotal number of hours. |
| - | [Intended length of hospital stay](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270399) | 270399 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Intended same-day |
| 2  | Intended overnight |

 |
| - | [Length of stay in intensive care unit](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/471553) | 471553 | Number
[4] | NNNNTotal number of hours. |
| - | [Number of days of hospital-in-the-home care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270305) | 270305 | Number
[3] | {N[NN]}Total number of days. |
| - | [Total leave days](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270251) | 270251 | Number
[3] | N[NN]Total number of days. |
| - | [Admitted patient election status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/326619) | 326619 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Public |
| 2  | Private |

 |
| - | [Procedure](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/589101) | 589101 | String
[8] | NNNNN-NNThe Australian Classification of Health Intervention (9th edition) code set representing procedures. |
| - | [Source of referral to public psychiatric hospital](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269947) | 269947 | String
[2] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 01  | Private psychiatric practice |
| 02  | Other private medical practice |
| 03  | Other public psychiatric hospital |
| 04  | Other health care establishment |
| 05  | Other private hospital |
| 06  | Law enforcement agency |
| 07  | Other agency |
| 08  | Outpatient department |
| 09  | Other |
| 10  | Unknown |

 |
| - | [Separation date](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270025) | 270025 | Date/Time
[8] | DDMMYYYYThe day of a particular month and year. |
| - | [Mode of separation](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270094) | 270094 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Discharge/transfer to (an)other acute hospital |
| 2  | Discharge/transfer to a residential aged care service, unless this is the usual place of residence |
| 3  | Discharge/transfer to (an)other psychiatric hospital  |
| 4  | Discharge/transfer to other health care accommodation (includes mothercraft hospitals) |
| 5  | Statistical discharge - type change |
| 6  | Left against medical advice/discharge at own risk |
| 7  | Statistical discharge from leave |
| 8  | Died |
| 9  | Other (includes discharge to usual residence, own accommodation/welfare institution (includes prisons, hostels and group homes providing primarily welfare services)) |

 |
| - | [Additional diagnosis](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/588981) | 588981 | String
[6] | ANN{.N[N]}The ICD-10-AM (9th edition) code set representing diagnoses. |
| - | [Inter-hospital contracted patient](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/472024) | 472024 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   | Contracted (destination) hospital |
| 1  | Inter-hospital contracted patient from public sector hospital |
| 2  | Inter-hospital contracted patient from private sector hospital |
|   | Contracting (originating) hospital |
| 3  | Inter-hospital contracted patient to public sector hospital |
| 4  | Inter-hospital contracted patient to private sector hospital |
| 5  | Not inter-hospital contracted |
| 9  | Not stated |

 |
| - | [Mental health legal status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/534063) | 534063 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Involuntary patient |
| 2  | Voluntary patient |
| 9  | Not reported/unknown |

 |
| - | [Total psychiatric care days](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/552375) | 552375 | Number
[5] | N[NNNN]Total number of days. |
| - | [Principal diagnosis—episode of care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/588987) | 588987 | String
[6] | ANN{.N[N]}The ICD-10-AM (9th edition) code set representing diagnoses. |
| - | [Funding source for hospital patient](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/553314) | 553314 | String
[2] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 01  | Health service budget (not covered elsewhere) |
| 02  | Health service budget (due to eligibility for Reciprocal Health Care Agreement) |
| 03  | Health service budget (no charge raised due to hospital decision) |
| 04  | Department of Veterans' Affairs |
| 05  | Department of Defence |
| 06  | Correctional facility |
| 07  | Medicare Benefits Scheme |
| 08  | Other hospital or public authority (contracted care) |
| 09  | Private health insurance |
| 10  | Worker's compensation |
| 11  | Motor vehicle third party personal claim |
| 12  | Other compensation (e.g. public liability, common law, medical negligence) |
| 13  | Self-funded |
| 88  | Other funding source |
| 98  | Not known |

 |
| - | [Australian State/Territory identifier (establishment)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269941) | 269941 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | New South Wales |
| 2  | Victoria |
| 3  | Queensland |
| 4  | South Australia |
| 5  | Western Australia |
| 6  | Tasmania |
| 7  | Northern Territory |
| 8  | Australian Capital Territory |
| 9  | Other territories (Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and Jervis Bay Territory) |

 |
| - | [Geographic remoteness (establishment)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/539871) | 539871 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 0  | Major cities of Australia |
| 1  | Inner regional Australia |
| 2  | Outer regional Australia |
| 3  | Remote Australia |
| 4  | Very remote Australia |
| 5  | Migratory |
| 9  | Not stated/inadequately described |

 |
| - | [Establishment number](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269975) | 269975 | Number
[5] | NNNNNA combination of numeric characters that identify an entity. |
| - | [Region code](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269940) | 269940 | String
[2] | X[X]A combination of alphanumeric characters that identify an entity. |
| - | [Establishment sector](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269977) | 269977 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Public |
| 2  | Private |

 |
| - | [Care type](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/584408) | 584408 | Number
[2] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Admitted care  |  |
| 1  | Acute care |
| 2  | Rehabilitation care |
| 3  | Palliative care |
| 4  | Geriatric evaluation and management |
| 5  | Psychogeriatric care |
| 6  | Maintenance care |
| 7  | Newborn care |
| 11  | Mental health care |
| 88  | Other admitted patient care |
| Care other than admitted care  |  |
| 9  | Organ procurement—posthumous |
| 10  | Hospital boarder |

 |
| - | [Activity when injured](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/589002) | 589002 | String
[5] | ANN{.N[N]}The ICD-10-AM (9th edition) code set representing the type of activity being undertaken when injured. |
| - | [External cause](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/589014) | 589014 | String
[6] | ANN{.N[N]}The ICD-10-AM (9th edition) code set representing external cause of injury, poisoning or other adverse effect. |
| - | [Place of occurrence of external cause of injury (ICD-10-AM)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/589028) | 589028 | String
[6] | ANN{.N[N]}The ICD-10-AM (9th edition) code set representing the place where the external cause of injury, poisoning or other adverse effect occurred. |
| - | [Hospital insurance status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270253) | 270253 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Hospital insurance |
| 2  | No hospital insurance |
| 9  | Unknown |

 |
| - | [Previous specialised treatment](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270374) | 270374 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Patient has no previous admission(s) or service contact(s) for the specialised treatment now being provided |
| 2  | Patient has previous hospital admission(s) but no service contact(s) for the specialised treatment now being provided  |
| 3  | Patient has previous service contact(s) but no hospital admission(s) for the specialised treatment now being provided  |
| 4  | Patient has both previous hospital admission(s) and service contact(s) for the specialised treatment now being provided |
| 5  | Unknown/not stated |

 |
| - | [Type of usual accommodation](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270079) | 270079 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | House or flat |
| 2  | Independent unit as part of retirement village or similar |
| 3  | Hostel or hostel type accommodation |
| 4  | Psychiatric hospital |
| 5  | Acute hospital |
| 6  | Other accommodation |
| 7  | No usual residence |

 |
| - | [Type of accommodation](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270088) | 270088 | Number
[2] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Private residence (e.g. house, flat, bedsitter, caravan, boat, independent unit in retirement village), including privately and publicly rented homes |
| 2  | Psychiatric hospital |
| 3  | Residential aged care service |
| 4  | Specialised alcohol/other drug treatment residence |
| 5  | Specialised mental health community-based residential support service |
| 6  | Domestic-scale supported living facility (e.g. group home for people with disability) |
| 7  | Boarding/rooming house/hostel or hostel type accommodation, not including aged persons' hostel |
| 8  | Homeless persons' shelter |
| 9  | Shelter/refuge (not including homeless persons' shelter) |
| 10  | Other supported accommodation |
| 11  | Prison/remand centre/youth training centre |
| 12  | Public place (homeless) |
| 13  | Other accommodation, not elsewhere classified |
| 14  | Unknown/unable to determine |

 |
| - | [Area of usual residence (SA2)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/469909) | 469909 | String
[9] | N(9)A code set representing a medium-sized area built from whole Statistical areas level 1 (SA1s). The aim of Statistical areas level 2 (SA2s) is to represent a community that interacts together socially and economically. |
| - | [Country of birth](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/459973) | 459973 | Number
[4] | NNNNThe Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC 2011) code set representing a country. |
| - | [Date of birth](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/287007) | 287007 | Date/Time
[8] | DDMMYYYYThe day of a particular month and year. |
| - | [Medicare eligibility status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/481841) | 481841 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Eligible |
| 2  | Not eligible |
| 9  | Not stated/unknown |

 |
| - | [Indigenous status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/602543) | 602543 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 2  | Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin |
| 3  | Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 4  | Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin |
| 9  | Not stated/inadequately described |

 |
| - | [Employment status (admitted patient)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269948) | 269948 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Unemployed / pensioner |
| 2  | Other |

 |
| - | [Employment status—public psychiatric hospital admissions](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/269955) | 269955 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Child not at school |
| 2  | Student |
| 3  | Employed |
| 4  | Unemployed |
| 5  | Home duties |
| 6  | Other |

 |
| - | [Marital status](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/291045) | 291045 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Never married |
| 2  | Widowed |
| 3  | Divorced |
| 4  | Separated |
| 5  | Married (registered and de facto) |
| 6  | Not stated/inadequately described |

 |
| - | [Person identifier](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/290046) | 290046 | String
[20] | XXXXXX[X(14)]A logical combination of valid alphanumeric characters that identify an entity. |
| - | [Sex](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/287316) | 287316 | Number
[1] |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  | Male |
| 2  | Female |
| 3  | Intersex or indeterminate |
| 9  | Not stated/inadequately described |

 |
| - | [Weight in grams (measured)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/310245) | 310245 | Number
[4] | NNNNTotal number of grams. |
| - | [Record identifier (80 character maximum)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/555463) | 555463 | String
[80] | X[X(79)]A logical combination of alphanumeric characters that identify an entity. |

 |