

Special adoptive care need code N

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Special adoptive care need code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	687817
Registration status:	Children and Families , Superseded 11/11/2018
Definition:	A code set representing the level of additional resources and/or support services required to foster healthy development and wellbeing, and to support positive family functioning and prevent adoption disruptions.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	No additional care needs
	2	Minor additional care needs
	3	Moderate additional care needs
	4	Substantial additional care needs
	5	Extensive additional care needs
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Codes to be used after a 12 month assessment.

CODE 1 No additional care needs

A child who requires a level of personal, emotional and physical care consistent with that which would be expected for their age group. On a day-to-day basis, care is essentially the same as would be expected for the average, non-adopted peer of similar age in the general population.

CODE 2 Minor additional care needs

A child who requires a level of personal, emotional and physical care consistent with that which would be expected for their age group and experiences. On a day-to-day basis, care is comparable to what would be expected for their, non-adopted peers, but their adoption history may result in some irregular periods of additional care needs.

CODE 3 Moderate additional care needs

A child who requires a moderate level of personal, emotional and physical care beyond that which would be expected for their age group.

This additional care, will usually be confined to one specific area of need, such as:

- Child (on an ongoing basis) requiring abnormal amounts of attention and affection, high levels of routine and structure due to trauma/relationship trauma; displaying (on an ongoing basis) aggressive behaviours, enuresis and encopresis; stealing; sleeping difficulties
- Child (beyond usual age expectations) requiring assistance with dressing, bathing, toileting, feeding, mobility

- Regular physical therapy of up to 1 hour per day
- Regular medication for a diagnosed condition that requires skill and training to administer, or is needed to allow significantly improved day-to-day functioning
- Medical need for special dietary restrictions
- Frequent hospital or specialist appointments, or
- Ongoing high support special education programs.

CODE 4 Substantial additional care needs

A child who requires a considerable level of personal, emotional and physical care beyond that which would be expected for their age group.

This additional care, beyond that required of those with moderate care needs, will usually include a combination of two or more specific areas of need, such as those outlined under moderate additional care needs:

- Child (on an ongoing basis) requiring abnormal amounts of attention and affection, high levels of routine and structure due to trauma/relationship trauma; displaying (on an ongoing basis) aggressive behaviours, enuresis and encopresis; stealing; sleeping difficulties
- Child (beyond usual age expectations) requiring assistance with dressing, bathing, toileting, feeding, mobility.
- Physical therapy of up to 1 hour per day and regular medication requiring skill and training to administer
- Need for special diet, frequent hospital appointments, ongoing special education programmes.

CODE 5 Extensive additional care needs

A child who require a consistently high level of personal, emotional and physical care beyond that which would be expected for their age group.

This additional care beyond that required of those in other categories of level of need will usually include a combination of two or more specific areas of need, such as:

- Extreme attention seeking behaviour; frequent smearing of faeces; extreme hyperactivity requiring constant supervision; frequent aggression; extreme difficulty with schooling
- Child requires physical therapy 1 – 2 hours a day
- Specialist care techniques required (e.g. bathing, administering medication)
- Child unable to walk and/or talk
- Child needs constant attention
- Frequent hospital appointments and/or treatment.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Special adoptive care need code N Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

Data elements implementing this value domain: [Adoptive family—special care need, code N Children and Families](#), Superseded 12/11/2018