



# What is an ACHI code?

ACHI (The Australian Classification of Health Interventions) codes are a classification of interventions based on the Commonwealth Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS). ACHI is the Australian national standard for intervention coding in Australian hospitals.

ACHI classifies interventions (procedures) performed in public and private hospitals, day centres and ambulatory settings. Allied health interventions, dental services and other interventions performed outside the operating room are also included.

ACHI includes content from the MBS (with some exceptions) and the Australian Schedule of Dental Services and Glossary (ADA). A two-digit extension number is attached to each MBS item number to represent individual interventional concepts. Other ACHI concepts that are not represented in the MBS or ADA are allocated a code number from the remainder of the 90000 series.

Currently Australia is utilising ACHI Eleventh Edition for admitted episodes of care. The Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) has the responsibility for the further development of ACHI.

(Source: The Australian Classification of Health Interventions, Eleventh Edition, Tabular List, Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, 2019).

An ACHI code is assigned to capture interventions/procedures/operations as part of the Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection (QHAPDC).

**ACHI codes are:**

- numeric codes
- code length 7 characters (excluding punctuation)
- used for activity based funding, epidemiology, research, service planning
- used by public and private hospitals.

**ACHI codes do not:**

- describe diseases, symptoms (the represent important problems in medical care in their own right), injuries, poisonings, and/or adverse effects and procedural complications.

ACHI manuals can be found in university libraries, with Health Information Managers at hospitals or if you are a Queensland Health employee you can access via [Corporate Reference Data System](#).

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