

VITAL STATUS

VITSTAT = Vital status

1. CDE Variable	VITSTAT = vital status
2. CDE Definition	The Vital Status on the visit date. If the individual with TBI died, please complete the module on death.
3. Recommended instrument for assessment	N/A
4. Description of measure	Categorical; unique entry.
5. Permissible values	Status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead • Alive • Unknown
6. Classification: Basic/Intermediate/Advanced	Identical
7. Procedure	N/A
8. Comments/Special instructions: If uncertainty exists on vital status, use vital status search, such as the social security death index in the US.	
9. Rationale/justification: Vital status should always be tracked after TBI not only as a primary outcome, but also in order to estimate life expectancy and determine risk factors for death and causes of death that could possibly be prevented.	
10. References: <i>Harrison-Felix C, Whiteneck G, DeVivo M, et al. Causes of Death after 1 Year Postinjury among Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury. J Head Trauma Rehabil. Jan-Feb 2006;21(1):22-33.</i> <i>Harrison-Felix C, Whiteneck G, DeVivo M, et al. Mortality Following Rehabilitation in the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems of Care. NeuroRehabilitation. 2004;19(1):45-54.</i>	
Recommended time for assessment: On follow up as required by protocol.	