

DEATH

DATDEATH: Date of death

CAUSDEATH: Principal cause of death

1. CDE Variable	DATDEATH: Date of death CAUSDEATH: Principal cause of death
2. CDE Definition	If the individual with TBI died, record the date of death and cause of death.
3. Recommended instrument for assessment	If individual with TBI expired, confirm date and cause of death from treating physicians/hospital records and/or death certificate.
4. Description of measure	If expired, what is the date of death and the principal cause of death
5. Permissible values	<u>Date of death:</u> - DD-MMM-YYYY - 99-999-9999 if unknown
6. Classification: Basic/Intermediate/Advanced	<u>Principal cause of death:</u> - head injury/initial injury - head injury/secondary intracranial damage - systemic trauma - medical complications - other - unknown <u>Advanced:</u> List the three main causes of death using ICD-10 codes. Date of death/principal cause of death: Identical. ICD-10 codes for death: advanced.
7. Procedure	The principal cause of death may be determined by interview with treating physician, review of hospital records and/or death certificates. For the advanced version we recommend additionally documenting up to three main causes of death using ICD-10 codes.
8. Comments/Special instructions:	If uncertainty exists on the occurrence of death or date of death, confirm death and date of death using vital status search, such as the Social Security Death Index in the US. If the TBI is considered the principal cause of death, we recommend to differentiate between the initial injury and secondary intracranial damage. Initial injury as principal cause of death would, for example, be applicable to subjects with diffuse axonal injury, whilst secondary intracranial damage would be more appropriate in the presence of progressive structural damage, confirmed by neuro-imaging studies. An instrument for converting descriptive diagnoses into the proper ICD-10 categories and codes is available at the following website: http://www.who.int/classifications/apps/icd/icd10online/
9. Rationale/justification:	Mortality is frequent after severe and moderate TBI and is thus an important outcome measure following TBI. Information on mortality is also important to determine whether death was related to the injury or coincidental and to determine risk factors for death and cause of death that could possibly be prevented.

10. References:

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.

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.

Recommended time for assessment: Discharge or at the time of scheduled follow-up evaluation.