

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND  
AMBULATORY SURGERY DATA REPORTING MANUAL,  
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, FOURTH EDITION**

**DATE OF BIRTH**

**Section 97251**

*For online transmission of data reports as electronic data files, the patient's date of birth shall be reported in numeric form as follows: 4-digit year, 2-digit month, and 2-digit day. The numeric form for days and months from 1 to 9 must have a zero as the first digit.*

*For online entry of individual records, the patient's date of birth shall be reported in numeric form as follows: the 2-digit month, the 2-digit day, and the 4-digit year. The numeric form for days and months from 1 to 9 must have a zero as the first digit.*

*When the complete date of birth is unknown, as much of the date as is known shall be reported. At a minimum, an approximate year of birth shall be reported. If only the age is known, the estimated year of birth shall be reported and the month and day can be reported as 01 for month and 01 for day.*

**DISCUSSION**

The numeric format differs depending on how it is being reported:

Specifications for reporting this data element for online data file transmission file for encounters occurring on or after January 1, 2006:

<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b>							
<i>Year (4-digit)</i>				<i>Month</i>		<i>Day</i>	

Specifications for reporting this data element with the Record Entry Form for online web entry of individual records for encounters occurring on or after January 1, 2006:

<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b>							
<i>Month</i>		<i>Day</i>		<i>Year (4-digit)</i>			

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Partial Dates of Birth:

Please provide as much data as is available.

If the patient's month and day of birth are unknown, and the year is known, the month will be 01, the day will be 01, and the given year.

Example: The patient was born in 1948. Report the date of birth as:

Electronic Data File	Record Entry Form
19480101	01011948

If the patient's age is known, subtract the age from the current year to get year of birth.

Example: The patient is known to be 65 years old and the year he receives medical service is 2004 ( $2004 - 65 = 1939$ ). Report the date of birth as:

Electronic Data File	Record Entry Form
19390101	01011939

If the patient's day of birth is unknown, and the month and year are known, the day will be 01.

Example: The patient was born in August 1952. Report the date of birth as:

Electronic Data File	Record Entry Form
19520801	08011952