

<b>Neonates</b>	<b>&lt; 28 d</b>
<b>Infant</b>	<b>≥ 28 d - ≤ 1 y</b>
<b>Paediatrics</b>	<b>&gt; 1 y - ≤ 14 y</b>
<b>Juvenile</b>	<b>&gt; 14 y - ≤ 16 y</b>
<b>Adolescence / Puberty</b>	<b>≤ 19 y</b>

### Definitions

#### Definition for maturity from Google:

Adulthood: the period of time in your life after your physical growth has stopped and you are fully developed

[wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn](http://wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn) - Definition in context

#### Definition of adolescence

Adolescence begins with the onset of physiologically normal puberty, and ends when an adult identity and behaviour are accepted. This period of years, which is consistent with the World Health Organisation's definition of adolescence.

<http://www.cps.ca/English/statements/AM/ah03-02.htm>

#### Definition of Adult-onset Still's disease

Although Still disease was first described in children, it is known to begin in adults (rarely).

[www.medterms.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2156](http://www.medterms.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2156)

#### Definition of Juvenile

Juvenile: Between infantile and adult as, for example, in juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (onset before age 16 years) and juvenile diabetes

[www.medterms.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2156](http://www.medterms.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2156)

Juvenile: Young, immature person; child

Reference: Dorland medical dictionary

#### Definition of child

Child: up to puberty

Reference: Dorland medical dictionary

#### Definition of infant

Infant: A child under the age of 1 year; more specifically, a newborn baby.

[Stedman's Concise Medical Dictionary for Health Professionals](#)

#### Definition of neonate

Neonate: birth to 28 days inclusive (first four weeks of birth)

Reference: Dorland medical dictionary

#### Definition of perinatal

Perinatal: 20<sup>th</sup> week pregnancy to 7 days after birth

Reference: Dorland medical dictionary

## AGE EDITS - DEFINITIONS

### Medical treatment

Currently, children can consent independently to medical treatment from the age of 14; those below 14 require consent from a parent, legal guardian or other designated person. In the future, children will be able to consent to medical treatment from the age of 12, if they have 'sufficient maturity'.

Reference: Child Consent in South African Law (see attached document)

### Child

A person who has not yet attained the age of 15 years.

Definitions, Statistics South Africa, 1998

<http://www.statssa.gov.za/census01/census96/html/metadata/Docs/Dfntns.html>

**Paediatric Patient** – Patient usually younger than 14 years of age.

Reference: Coders' Desk Reference for Procedures

005 Paediatric cases (under 14 years of age)

Reference: NHRPL 2006

Age and Criminal capacity

#### (i) Age

Current South African law

3.1 In both international and national law, the definition of a juvenile is directly or indirectly related to age. The term "juvenile", however, may differ from that of "child". The Constitution of South Africa, in section 28, defines a child as a person below the age of 18.

[http://www.saflii.org/za/other/zalc/ip/9/9-3\\_.html#Heading152](http://www.saflii.org/za/other/zalc/ip/9/9-3_.html#Heading152)

**Infant** – a young child; considered to designate the human young from birth to 12 months.

**Childhood** – the period of life of the human young generally considered to extend from infancy to puberty.

**Adult** – 1. Having attained full growth or maturity

Reference: Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary, 31<sup>st</sup> edition

**Infant** – a child who is in the earliest stage of extra uterine life, a time extending from the first month after birth to approximately 12 months of age, when the baby is able to assume an erect posture; some extend the period to 24 months of age.

<http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/infant>

## 5.6 Recommendations in relation to statistical tables for international comparison

### 5.6.1 Statistical tables

The degree of detail in cross-classification by cause, sex, age, and geographical area will depend both on the purpose and range of the statistics and on the practical limits to their tabulation. The following patterns, which are designed to promote international compatibility, present standard ways of expressing various characteristics. Where a different classification is used in published tables (e.g. in age-grouping), it should be reducible to one of the recommended groupings.

(b) Age classification for general purposes:

- (i) under 1 year, single years to 4 years, 5-year groups from 5 to 84 years, 85 years and over;
- (ii) under 1 year, 1-4 years, **5-14 years**, 15-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, 75 years and over.
- (iii) under 1 year, **1-14 years**, 15-44 years, 45-64 years, 65 years and over.

Reference: ICD-10, Volume 2