**The patients table**

**Table source:** CareVue and Metavision ICU databases.

**Table purpose:** Defines each SUBJECT\_ID in the database, i.e. defines a single patient.

**Number of rows:** 46,520

**Links to:**

* ADMISSIONS on SUBJECT\_ID
* ICUSTAYS on SUBJECT\_ID

**Important considerations**

* DOB has been shifted for patients older than 89. The median age for the patients whose date of birth was shifted is 91.4.

**Table columns**

| **Name** | **Postgres data type** |
| --- | --- |
| ROW\_ID | INT |
| SUBJECT\_ID | INT |
| GENDER | VARCHAR(5) |
| DOB | TIMESTAMP(0) |
| DOD | TIMESTAMP(0) |
| DOD\_HOSP | TIMESTAMP(0) |
| DOD\_SSN | TIMESTAMP(0) |
| EXPIRE\_FLAG | VARCHAR(5) |

**Detailed Description**

SUBJECT\_ID

SUBJECT\_ID is a unique identifier which specifies an individual patient. SUBJECT\_ID is a candidate key for the table, so is unique for each row. Information that is consistent for the lifetime of a patient is stored in this table.

GENDER

GENDER is the genotypical sex of the patient.

DOB

DOB is the date of birth of the given patient. Patients who are older than 89 years old at any time in the database have had their date of birth shifted to obscure their age and comply with HIPAA. The shift process was as follows: the patient’s age at their first admission was determined. The date of birth was then set to exactly 300 years before their first admission.

DOD, DOD\_HOSP, DOD\_SSN

DOD is the date of death for the given patient. DOD\_HOSP is the date of death as recorded in the hospital database. DOD\_SSN is the date of death from the social security database. Note that DOD merged together DOD\_HOSP and DOD\_SSN, giving priority to DOD\_HOSP if both were recorded.

EXPIRE\_FLAG

EXPIRE\_FLAG is a binary flag which indicates whether the patient died, i.e. whether DOD is null or not. These deaths include both deaths within the hospital (DOD\_HOSP) and deaths identified by matching the patient to the social security master death index (DOD\_SSN).