



Western Australian Coding Rule

0721/07 Poor maternal effort requiring instrumental delivery

Q.

What diagnosis code/s are assigned for poor maternal effort requiring instrumental delivery of newborn?

A.

Poor maternal effort may be due to a condition classifiable in ICD-10-AM; or it may be the result of a human behaviour/response/variant considered to be normal/expected within the spectrum of labour and delivery behaviours/responses/variants.

Where poor maternal effort is documented, look for documentation of the cause and effect of poor maternal effort, then assign codes for these conditions when they meet the criteria for coding. A code for poor maternal effort itself, is not assigned in addition to codes for these conditions.

Example

For documentation of:

'poor maternal effort due to maternal exhaustion resulting in prolonged second stage and fetal distress requiring vacuum extraction'

assign codes for maternal exhaustion, fetal distress and prolonged second stage only.

Where there's no documentation of the cause and effect of poor maternal effort, seek this detail from the clinician. Where such detail is not forthcoming, i.e. the poor maternal effort is not further specified, it is not assigned a code. Poor maternal effort, not further specified, is not assigned a code from O60-O75 *Complications of labour and delivery*.

DECISION

Look for documentation of the cause and effect of poor maternal effort, then assign codes for these conditions when they meet the criteria for coding. When there's no documentation of the cause and effect, seek this detail from the clinician. When such detail is not forthcoming, i.e. the poor maternal effort is not further specified, it is not assigned a code. The Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) will be asked to confirm this decision or otherwise.

[Effective 1 July 2021, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11th Ed.]