



Western Australian Coding Rule

0916/05 Ultrasound based endovascular carotid body ablation

Q.

Which procedure code should be assigned for the new procedure ultrasound based endovascular carotid body ablation?

A.

Ultrasound based endovascular carotid body ablation is a new procedure which is currently undergoing study in a number of teaching hospitals. The procedure is being used to treat resistant hypertension. It is a catheter-based procedure which uses ultrasound to ablate the carotid body from inside the carotid artery. The carotid body is a chemoreceptor which is situated between the two carotid arteries.

There is no ACHI code available for ultrasound based endovascular carotid body ablation. Clinical advice was sought on the best procedure code to assign. As some degree of nerve fibre destruction occurs during this procedure, a code for neurotomy may be assigned. Using the following Index pathway,

Neurotomy

- peripheral
- - percutaneous by
- - - radiofrequency
- - - thermocoagulation – see Neurotomy/peripheral/percutaneous, by radiofrequency

the 'best fit' code is 39323-00 [72] *Other percutaneous neurotomy by radiofrequency*.

DECISION

There is no ACHI code available for ultrasound based endovascular carotid body ablation. The 'best fit' code is 39323-00 [72] *Other percutaneous neurotomy by radiofrequency*. This query will be sent to the ACCD for confirmation.

[Effective 21 September 2016, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]