



Western Australian Coding Rule

1214/02 Lavage of peritoneal cavity

Q.

If lavage of peritoneal cavity is performed with another intraabdominal procedure, should 30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity* be coded as an additional procedure or is lavage a procedural component? Examples of documentation include:

'Laparoscopic washout of peritoneal cavity'

'Laparoscopic appendicectomy with washout of peritoneal cavity'

'Laparoscopic ovarian cystectomy with washout of pelvic cavity'

A.

30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity* should not be routinely assigned for documentation of lavage, washout or irrigation of the peritoneal or pelvic cavity performed during intra-abdominal surgery. The lavage may be a routine procedural component, inherent in the intra-abdominal surgery; or it may be a significant procedure, over and above that which is considered to be routine.

Coders should be guided by the documentation in each case, ACS 0016 *General procedure guidelines*, and ACS 0042 *Procedures normally not coded*, to determine if it is appropriate to assign 30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity* in addition to other intra-abdominal procedures.

Once it has been determined that the procedure should be coded, lavage, washout or irrigation of peritoneal or pelvic cavity should be assigned 30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity*, following the pathway "Lavage, peritoneal cavity" or "Irrigation, peritoneal cavity".

If lavage, washout or irrigation of peritoneal or pelvic cavity qualifies for coding and is performed at laparoscopy, assign an additional code to capture the laparoscopic procedure as per ACS 0023 *Laparoscopic, arthroscopic, endoscopic surgery*; and WA Coding Rule 0709/09 *Laparoscopic procedures (that can only be assigned to an open code), performed with another laparoscopic procedure*.

DECISION

For lavage, washout or irrigation of peritoneal or pelvic cavity, assign 30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity*.

Coders should be guided by the documentation in each case, ACS 0016 *General procedure guidelines* and ACS 0042 *Procedures normally not coded*, to determine if it is appropriate to assign 30396-00 [989] *Debridement and lavage of peritoneal cavity* in addition to other intra-abdominal procedures.

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