Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Health

Western Australian Coding Rule

0318/25 Postpartum bowel obstruction

In ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition, ACS 1548 *Puerperal/postpartum condition or complication* provides instruction for classifying nonobstetric conditions in the puerperal period. WA Coding Rule 0812/05 *Postpartum bowel obstruction* is therefore retired.

DECISION

WA Coding Rule 0812/05 *Postpartum bowel obstruction* is retired.

[Effective 01 Jul 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10th Ed.]

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0812/05 Postpartum bowel obstruction

Q.

How do we code the following scenario:

Bowel obstruction performed at 6 days postpartum. No CTG required and no obvious obstetric care was given. The patient was transferred out to hospital B for general surgery. The principal diagnosis on the discharge summary at from Hospital B: bowel obstruction.

As there was no evidence of obstetric care during the Hospital B episode should it be coded to O99.6 Diseases of the digestive system complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium and K56.6 Other and unspecified intestinal obstruction as a default; or should each case be coded individually on actual care provided, as per ACS 1521, even though this standard does not cover post-natal admissions?

A.

10AM Commandments vol 15. No.3 covers the ACS 1521 and the postpartum period of the delivery episode of care.

Even in the postpartum period of the delivery episode of care the issue of how you determine whether a nonobstetric condition complicates or is aggravated by the pregnancy is problematic. The rule of thumb is to assign a code from O98 or O99 as appropriate for nonobstetric conditions in this period and then to assign a code for the condition based on ACS 0027 Multiple coding.

The points below should be used in the decision making of the patient being postpartum not in the delivery episode of care.

Is there documentation of the terms postpartum or puerperium, postpartum care i.e. any observations or interventions pertaining to the postpartum period, or any current obstetric conditions?

Can you make an assessment as per ACS1521?

Is there already an O code present?

If the answer is yes to any of the above, assign the appropriate code from O99 locate the code for the disease K56.6 and then consult the index under Pregnancy complicated by --- conditions in K00-K93. O99.6 K56.6

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DECISION

When deciding if a patient is considered postpartum in a non-delivery episode of care, consider the following points:

Is there documentation of the terms postpartum or puerperium, postpartum care i.e. any observations or interventions pertaining to the postpartum period, or any current obstetric conditions?

Can you make an assessment as per ACS1521?

Is there already an O code present?

If the answer is yes to any of the above, assign the appropriate code from O99 locate the code for the disease K56.6 and then consult the index under Pregnancy complicated by --- conditions in K00-K93. O99.6 K56.6

[Effective15 Aug 2012, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]

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