Western Australian Coding Rule

0719/12 Coding of multiple perineal tears

WA Coding Rule 1111/08 Coding of multiple perineal tears is retired.

In ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Eleventh Edition (effective 1 July 2019), ICD-10-AM Tabular List and ACS 1551 Obstetric perineal grazes and lacerations were amended to provide guidance for the coding of multiple perineal tears.

DECISION

WA Coding Rule 1111/08 Coding of multiple perineal tears is retired.

[Effective 1 July 2019, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11th Ed.]
Western Australian Coding Rule

1111/08 Coding of multiple perineal tears

Q.
If a patient has a second degree and a first degree tear in two different locations, both repaired, would it be correct to assign O70.0 First degree perineal laceration during delivery and O70.1 Second degree perineal laceration during delivery as well as two procedure codes?

A.
It is correct that multiple lacerations of a different degree can be coded. There is no exclusion note at O70.x Perineal laceration during delivery that prevents this. The index has all degrees of lacerations being of equal indentation. This is a coding convention, telling us to code each of the different levels of perineal lacerations. Of course we do not code a perineal laceration unless it is repaired. The corresponding repairs are coded according to how many tears are repaired, as per ACS 0020 Bilateral and multiple procedures, point 3 assign a code for each site.

DECISION
There is no exclusion note at O70.x Perineal laceration during delivery so multiple tears can be coded as long as they are at different sites and repaired. These tears must also be coded multiple times as per ACS 0020 Bilateral and multiple procedures, point 3.

[Effective 16 Nov 2011, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]