Western Australian Coding Rule

0919/02  Repeat cardiac ablation or cardioversion

Q. Does the ACS 0934 Cardiac and vascular revision/reoperation procedures instruction to assign a reoperation code apply to repeat cardiac ablation or cardioversion, often documented as “re-do” procedure?

A. ACS 0934 Cardiac and vascular revision/reoperation procedures states:

> Revision or reoperation procedures are more complex than initial cardiac and vascular procedures and result in a significant increase in resource consumption. They are most commonly performed for valve replacements, CABGs (coronary artery bypass grafts) and in paediatric procedures such as conduit replacement in congenital heart disease.

> Reoperation codes should only be assigned when it is necessary to ‘redo’ or revise the same cardiovascular procedure. These codes are not intended to be used for a subsequent opening of the operative site for treatment of an unrelated condition.

ACS 0934 implies that a reoperation code is appropriate when there is re-opening of an operative site (i.e. surgical) to revise the same procedure, which is reinforced by the ACHI Tabular List Instruction:

> 38640-00 [664] Reoperation for other cardiac procedure, not elsewhere classified
> Code first: surgical procedure(s) performed

Cardiac ablation is an intravascular catheter based procedure; and cardioversion a medical procedure. These are not considered to be surgical procedures for the purpose of ACS 0934 Cardiac and vascular revision/reoperation procedures.

DECISION

Cardiac ablation and cardioversion are not considered surgical procedures for the purpose of ACS 0934 Cardiac and vascular revision/reoperation procedures.

[Effective 01 October 2019, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11th Ed.]