Western Australian Coding Rule

1111/03 Greater than 10 percent weight loss in newborns

Q. When should >10% loss of birth weight in a newborn be coded?

A. Weight loss in a newborn of between 5-10% is considered to be normal however >10% is considered to be significant and requiring the introduction of treatment such as supplementation of feeds via expressed milk or formula. The >10% weight loss must be documented by a midwife and met ACS 0002. As there is no specific code in the perinatal chapter for this code the only code option is R63.4 Abnormal weight loss.

DECISION
If the condition >10% loss of birth weight is documented and intervention is undertaken then assign R63.4 Abnormal weight loss.

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