



Western Australian Coding Rule

0725/17 Failed calculus extraction from bile duct

Q.

How should failed extraction of calculus from the bile duct be coded? The trawl was inserted during ERCP but failed to remove the calculus.

A.

Although described as “failed” in clinical documentation, for classification purposes it is considered an ‘intervention not completed’.

ACS 0019 *Intervention abandoned, interrupted, not completed or failed* directs that where an intervention is abandoned, interrupted or not completed, assign codes for the extent to which the intervention is performed.

- If a component (e.g. extraction of calculus) isn’t completed, and the component is listed as an essential modifier in the Alphabetic Index (e.g. ‘ERCP/with extraction of calculus’), the Index pathway cannot be followed.

If a component (e.g. biopsy) isn’t completed, and the component is listed as a non-essential modifier in the Alphabetic Index e.g. ‘ERCP (with biopsy)’, the Index pathway can be followed if the ERCP was otherwise completed.

To classify the extent to which the intervention was performed (ERCP with trawl deployed into the common bile duct), assign 30484-00 [957] *Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography [ERCP]* via Alphabetic Index:

Exploration

- bile duct(s)
- - common (open)
- ...
- - - endoscopic retrograde
- ...
- - - - cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) 30484-00 [957]

If a sphincterotomy is performed to allow passage of the trawl, assign instead 30485-00 [963] *Endoscopic sphincterotomy* via Alphabetic Index:



ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)

...

- with
- - sphincterotomy

DECISION

A failed extraction of a calculus from the common bile duct where the trawl is deployed but fails to remove any calculus should be assigned the appropriate ERCP code:

30484-00 [957] *Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography [ERCP]*

or

30485-00 [963] *Endoscopic sphincterotomy.*

This WA Coding Rule 0725/17 *Failed calculus extraction from bile duct* supersedes WA Coding Rule 1113/01 *Failed calculus extraction from bile duct.*

This Rule has been modified to improve clarity; and to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Thirteenth Edition.

Effective 1 July 2025, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 13th Ed.

As per the Patient Activity Data Policy (MP 0164/21) Western Australian Coding Rules must be followed.



1113/01 Failed calculus extraction from bile duct

Q.

How should failed extraction of calculus from the bile duct be coded? The trawl was inserted during ERCP but failed to remove the calculus.

A.

ACS 0019 *Procedure not completed or interrupted* directs clinical coders to code to the extent of the procedure performed when a procedure is not completed or interrupted.

In the case of a 'failed' procedure, documentation must be read carefully to determine the extent reached. If only an inherent component of the procedure fails, and this component isn't an essential modifier, it may still be appropriate to code the full procedure e.g. for a 'failed CDE' where the common bile duct was explored but dye could not be introduced, is coded as 'exploration of common bile duct' to 30454-00 [963] *Choledochotomy* regardless of whether dye is introduced.

Once the extent of the procedure has been determined, the Alphabetic Index should be followed carefully to assign the correct code.

In this case, because a calculus was not extracted, it would be incorrect to assign a code for ERCP with extraction of calculus.

To capture that a trawl was inserted into the common bile duct, the lead term 'Exploration' should be followed. Following the index pathway below, assign 30484-00 [957] *Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography [ERCP]*. The instrumentation (trawl) is inherent in this code.

Exploration

- bile duct(s)
- - common
- - - endoscopic retrograde
- - - - cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

A sphincterotomy may also be performed to allow passage of the trawl. If this is documented, assign 30485-00 [963] *Endoscopic sphincterotomy* instead by following the pathway:

ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)

- with
- - sphincterotomy



DECISION

A failed extraction of a calculus from the common bile duct where the trawl is inserted but fails to remove any calculus should be assigned the appropriate ERCP code:

30484-00 [957] *Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography [ERCP]*

or

30485-00 [963] *Endoscopic sphincterotomy.*

Effective 26 Nov 2013, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.

SUPERSEDED