



Western Australian Coding Rule

0725/23 Femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect of the knee

Q.

What code is assigned for femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect of the knee when it's the only documented diagnosis for matrix-induced autologous chondrocyte implantation with high tibial osteotomy?

A.

“Femoral condyle ulcer” or “osteochondral defect” is non-specific documentation which does not indicate whether the affected area is cartilage or bone. Clarification should be sought from the clinician. If this is not possible, code as an articular cartilage disorder via Alphabetic Index:

Disorder

- cartilage
- articular M24.1-

and the *Instructional* note '**Excludes:** internal derangement of knee', to assign:

M23.89 *Other internal derangements of knee, unspecified ligament or unspecified meniscus.*

DECISION

Attempt to obtain clarification from the clinician to ascertain whether the affected area is cartilage or bone. If this is not possible, assign M23.89 *Other internal derangements of knee, unspecified ligament or unspecified meniscus.*

This WA Coding Rule 0725/23 *Femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect of knee* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0210/02 *Femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect.*

This Rule has a minor modification to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Twelfth 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.



Western Australian Coding Rule

0210/02 Femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect

Q.

What is the correct diagnosis code assignment when femoral condyle ulcer or osteochondral defect is the only documented diagnosis for matrix-induced autologous chondrocyte implantation (MACI) with high tibial osteotomy (HTO)?

A.

“Femoral condyle ulcer” or “osteochondral defect” is non-specific documentation which does not indicate whether the affected area is cartilage or bone. Clarification should be sought from the clinician. If this is not possible, code as articular cartilage disorder.

The index pathway: *Disorder - cartilage -- articular* takes you to block M24 *Other specific joint derangements*. By following the exclusion note, the correct code assignment for articular cartilage disorder of knee is M23.89 *Other internal derangements of knee, unspecified ligament or unspecified meniscus*.

Coders are also reminded that ACS 1343 *Erosion of knee* should be followed where applicable.

DECISION

Attempt to obtain clarification from the clinician to ascertain whether the affected area is cartilage or bone. If this is not possible, assign M23.89 *Other internal derangements of knee, unspecified ligament or unspecified meniscus*.

Effective 1 July 2021, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11th Ed.