



Western Australian Coding Rule

0725/24 Dermoglandular flap

Q.

What code is assigned for a dermoglandular flap performed to fill the defect post excision of breast lesion?

A.

A dermoglandular flap comprises the dermal and glandular portions of the breast and is used for breast reconstruction. A dermoglandular flap includes dermis/skin; however it's not solely a skin flap. The relevant Alphabetic Index pathways are:

Flap (repair)

- for
- - reconstruction of breast – see *Reconstruction/breast/with/flap*

Reconstruction

- ...
- breast
- ...
- - with
- - - flap
- - - - free (microsurgical) 45530-03 [1756]
- - - - pedicled 45530-01 [1756]

DECISION

Dermoglandular flap of breast is classified as breast reconstruction with flap (free flap or pedicled flap).

This WA Coding Rule 0725/24 *Dermoglandular flap* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0312/04 *Dermoglandular flap*.

This Rule has been modified 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.



Western Australian Coding Rule

0312/04 Dermoglandular flap

Q.

What is the correct code to assign for a dermoglandular flap performed to fill the defect post excision of breast lesion?

A.

Following the Alphabetic Index for ACHI and looking up the lead term 'flap', then 'breast', there are two options:

- -for reconstruction of breast 45530-02 [1756]

Or

- - skin – See Flap, skin, by type

A dermoglandular flap comprises the dermal and glandular portions of the breast and is used for breast reconstruction. A dermoglandular flap includes dermis/skin; however it is not solely a skin flap, therefore follow Index entry 'for reconstruction of breast' and assign 45530-02 [1756] *Reconstruction of breast using flap*.

DECISION

Dermoglandular flap of breast should be assigned code 45530-02 [1756]

Reconstruction of breast using flap.

Effective 28 March 2012, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.