



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0725/87 Vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy

### Q.

Which code(s) are assigned for 'vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy'? The uterus was bulky from large fibroids and unable to be removed vaginally, and there was no laparoscopic assistance. Should both vaginal hysterectomy and abdominal hysterectomy be coded?

### A.

Although the vaginal hysterectomy may not be documented as 'failed', ACS 0019 *Interventions abandoned, interrupted, not completed, or failed/2. Failed interventions* is applicable. Per ACS 0019/2. *Failed interventions/Directive 2.1*, assign an ACHI code for the intervention successfully performed (abdominal hysterectomy) because the expected outcome (hysterectomy) was achieved.

If there is documentation of vaginal incision as part of the failed vaginal hysterectomy, assign also 35572-01 [1280] *Vaginotomy* because it's not inherent in abdominal hysterectomy (in accordance with ACS 0016 *General intervention guidelines/Exception 2*).

### DECISION

**Per ACS 0019 *Interventions abandoned, interrupted, not completed, or failed /2. Failed interventions/Directive 2.1*, assign an ACHI code for the intervention successfully performed (abdominal hysterectomy) because the expected outcome (hysterectomy) was achieved.**

**This WA Coding Rule 0725/87 *Vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0210/01 *Vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy*.**

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 13<sup>th</sup> Ed.

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



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0210/01 Vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy

### Q.

Which code(s) are assigned for "vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy"? The uterus was bulky from large fibroids and unable to be removed vaginally, and there was no laparoscopic assistance. Should both vaginal hysterectomy and abdominal hysterectomy be coded?

### A.

To assign both codes reads back as two hysterectomies being performed. The patient isn't hysterectomised until the uterus has been removed. If the hysterectomy can only be achieved by opening the abdomen, then the most invasive approach would take precedence for coding. The fact that the vaginal attempt cannot be captured in this instance is beyond the scope of what ACHI can currently deliver. If there is documentation of vaginal incision as part of the attempted vaginal hysterectomy, add code 35572-01 [1280] *Vaginotomy*.

### DECISION

**Assign 35653-01 [1268] *Total abdominal hysterectomy for vaginal hysterectomy converted to abdominal hysterectomy*.**

This advice has a minor modification to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Eighth Edition.

[Effective 17 Feb 2010, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.]