



Western Australian Coding Rule

0725/98 Z53 code instruction in ACS 1551 *Obstetric perineal grazes and perineal lacerations*

WA Coding Rule 0613/05 *Z53 code instruction in ACS 1551 Obstetric perineal grazes and perineal lacerations* is retired.

Directives in Australian Coding Standards (ACS) are only applicable in the ACS in which they are embedded and should not be applied in other circumstances.



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0613/05 Z53 code instruction in ACS 1551 *Obstetric perineal grazes and perineal lacerations*

Q.

ACS 1551 *Obstetric perineal lacerations/grazes* instructs to assign Z53 *Persons encountering health services for specific procedures, not carried out* after a laceration/graze code, when patient chooses not to have repair. What is the logic of this instruction and can it be applied to other cases where patient chooses not to have a procedure?

A.

The ACS 1551 *Obstetric perineal lacerations/grazes* instruction to assign Z53.- *Persons encountering health services for specific procedures, not carried out* only applies to obstetric perineal lacerations/grazes.

The rationale behind the instruction is to identify laceration/graze requiring repair without a corresponding ACHI repair code. This instruction was added to ACS 1551 in Eight Edition to incorporate advice from Coding Matters vol. 13 no. 2; and underwent minor revision in Eleventh Edition.

DECISION

The instruction to assign Z53.- *Persons encountering health services for specific procedures, not carried out* is only applicable to obstetric/perineal lacerations/grazes.

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

[Effective 1 July 2013, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]