



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 1021/02 Condition receiving care both before labour and during labour and/or delivery

### Q.

Can a 'maternal care' AND a 'complicating labour and/or delivery' code be assigned for a single condition if it receives care/management before labour and during labour and/or delivery?

### A.

Some conditions (e.g. fetal distress) are classified to **two codes** in Chapter 15 *Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium*, each reflecting the type of management and its timing:

- **'Maternal care'** (*Includes* Note in Tabular List states: Condition is reason for observation, hospitalisation or other obstetric care, or for caesarean section or termination of pregnancy)
- and
- **'Complicating labour and/or delivery'**

There is no specific Australian Coding Standard about the assignment of these two codes, however logic in ACS 1506 *Fetal presentation, disproportion and abnormality of maternal pelvic organs* is relevant. ACS 1506 instructs selecting a code based on the timing of the care/intervention (before onset of labour **versus** during labour and/or delivery). ACS 1506 **does not preclude** both codes being assigned when care/intervention occurs in both time periods. Note:

- The *Excludes* notes at O36 (**Excludes**: labour and delivery complicated by fetal stress [distress] (O68.-) is to support mortality (single condition) coding and is thus not applicable.
- ACS 0025 *Double coding* instructs not to repeat the **same** code to reflect multiples of the same condition. This is not applicable as there are separate codes.
- The Multiple Condition Coding convention is silent on this issue, as it only provides instruction relating to code title; Inclusion term; residual (other or unspecified) code; and a condition with an underlying cause.

This query will be referred to IHPA. In the meantime, both 'maternal care' and 'complicating labour and/or delivery' codes may be assigned if care/intervention meets criteria for coding and occurs in both time periods.

**DECISION**

**This query will be referred to IHPA. In the meantime, both 'maternal care' and 'complicating labour and/or delivery' codes may be assigned if care/intervention meets criteria for coding and occurs in both time periods.**

**[Effective 1 October 2021, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11<sup>th</sup> Ed.]**