



Western Australian Coding Rule

0311/06 Multiple insertion of intercostal catheter

Q.

The HIMAA Introductory Coding Textbook states on page 80: "Procedures that are performed without anaesthesia should be coded only once unless the procedure is listed in ACS 0042 *Procedures normally not coded* as a procedure that should NOT be coded or unless directed otherwise by another standard". Following the above advice, would multiple insertion of intercostal catheter (without anaesthesia) in the same episode, be coded once, or as many times as it is performed?

A.

ACS 0020 *Bilateral/Multiple procedures* must be followed in this situation. The multiple procedures section in ACS 0020 provides relevant guidelines under points 1 and 4.

Following these guidelines, insertions of intercostal catheter should be coded as many times as it is performed. The same advice applies to procedures such as lumbar puncture, thoracentesis, paracentesis etc.

DECISION

Code intercostal catheter insertion as many times as it is performed in accordance with ACS 0020 *Bilateral/Multiple procedures*.

[Effective 23 Mar 2011, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]