



Western Australian Coding Rule

0813/01 Karydakis procedure

Q.

Could you please confirm the procedure code for Karydakis procedure for pilonidal cyst?

Should it be coded to:

45200-00 [1651] *Local skin flap of other site* **or**

30676-01 [1659] *Excision of pilonidal sinus or cyst?*

A.

In 1973, the late Dr. George Karydakis, in Greece, published a simple and successful operation to cure Pilonidal Cyst/Sinus. He excised the cyst with a simple biconvex 'elliptical' excision only just crossing the midline. It was based 1-2cm from the midline with excision down to the sacrum. A thick flap was then created by undercutting the midline side of the wound. This flap was advanced across the midline to meet the other side of the wound with two layers of catgut sutures to the fat around a drain tube. The wound was then closed with skin sutures. The scar is lateralised [away from the midline] with a resultant lower recurrence.

We sought clinical input regarding this procedure. The advice was that modifications of the procedure have occurred over the years, primarily in the extent of the excision, however the steps remain largely unchanged: the pilonidal sinus or cyst is excised with local asymmetrical lateral flap closure.

The asymmetrical lateral flap closure is the essential point of difference in this procedure when compared to other techniques for treating pilonidal cyst/sinus. The procedure does not involve marsupialisation.

Our clinical advisor suggests the assignment of both procedure codes to reflect the extent of the procedure:

30676-01 [1659] *Excision of pilonidal sinus or cyst* and 45200-00 [1651] *Local skin flap of other site*.

DECISION

Karydakis procedure should be coded by assigning both 30676-01 [1659] *Excision of pilonidal sinus or cyst* and 45200-00 [1651] *Local skin flap of other site*.

[Effective 21 Aug 2013, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]