

Clinical Policy: Elective Delivery Prior to 39 Weeks

Reference Number: WA.CP.MP.504

Last Review Date: 07/19

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

This policy describes the medical necessity guidelines for induction or cesarean delivery prior to 39 weeks gestation.

Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc., that elective delivery prior to 39 weeks gestational age is considered **medically necessary** when the maternal or fetal diagnosis is included in The Joint Commission list of “Conditions Possibly Justifying Elective Delivery”.
- II. It is the policy of Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc., that induction or cesarean delivery prior to 39 weeks’ gestation is **not medically necessary** for any other diagnosis.

Background

This policy is based entirely on Washington State Health Care Authority Billing Guidelines.

Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®). CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2019, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

The table below includes *categories* of diagnosis codes from the Joint Commission document. See the actual document (URL included in [References](#)) for specific diagnosis codes.

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes	Description
B20	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) disease
K80	Calculus of gallbladder with acute cholecystitis
K81	Acute cholecystitis
K83.8	Other specified diseases of biliary tract
K87	Disorders of gallbladder, biliary tract and pancreas in diseases classified elsewhere
O10	Pre-existing hypertension complicating pregnancy
O11	Pre-existing hypertension with pre-eclampsia
O13	Gestational hypertension without significant proteinuria
O14	Pre-eclampsia

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes	Description
O15	Eclampsia
O16	Unspecified maternal hypertension
O24	Diabetes mellitus in pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
O30	Multiple gestation
O31.1-O31.3	Continuing pregnancy following death of one or more fetus
O31.8	Other complications specific to multiple gestation
O34.212	Maternal care for vertical scar from previous cesarean delivery
O35	Maternal care for known or suspected fetal abnormality and damage
O36.0-O36.1	Maternal care for Rh and other isoimmunization
O36.4	Maternal care for intrauterine death
O36.5	Maternal care for known or suspected poor fetal growth
O36.8	Maternal care for other specified fetal problems
O40	Polyhydramnios
O41	Other disorders of amniotic fluid and membranes
O42	Premature rupture of membranes
O43.0	Placental transfusion syndromes
O43.2	Morbidly adherent placenta
O44	Placenta previa
O45.0	Premature separation of placenta
O46	Antepartum hemorrhage, not elsewhere classified
O66.6	Obstructed labor due to other multiple fetuses
O67	L&D complicated by intrapartum hemorrhage, not elsewhere classified
O68	L&D complicated by abnormality of fetal acid-base balance
O69.0	L&D complicated by prolapse of cord
O69.4	L&D complicated by vasa previa
O71.0	Rupture of uterus (spontaneous) before onset of labor
O76	Abnormality in fetal heart rate and rhythm complicating L&D
O98.72	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) disease complicating childbirth
O99.1	Other diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
O99.4	Diseases of the circulatory system complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
O99.81	Abnormal glucose complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
Z21	Asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection status
Z37.1	Single stillbirth
Z79.01	Long term (current) use of anticoagulants

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Policy adopted. Previously WA.UM.17.01	07/19	07/19

References

1. Washington State Health Care Authority. Physician-Related Services/Health Care Professional Services Billing Guide. <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/physician-related-bg-20190401.pdf> Revision effective April 1, 2019.
2. Joint Commission. Specifications Manual for Joint Commission National Quality Measures (v2018B1). Table Number 11.07 “Conditions Possibly Justifying Elective Delivery”. <https://manual.jointcommission.org/releases/TJC2018B1/AppendixATJC.html> Accessed June 20, 2019.

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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