

Coding Guidelines For Weeks Of Gestation And Pregnancy State, Incidental

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Problem and Goal

Problem

- Providing Weeks of Gestation (Z3A) without a first-listed diagnosis.
- Providing Pregnancy State, Incidental (Z33.1) without a diagnosis for the nature of the encounter.

Goal

- To provide a general understanding of coding guidelines for Weeks of Gestation (Z3A) and Pregnancy State, Incidental (Z33.1) in order for TriCore to receive all diagnoses that describe the patient's condition.

Weeks of Gestation and Pregnancy State, Incidental

- Weeks of Gestation - Z3A
 - Is there a complication of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium?
 - Used as a secondary diagnosis to provide additional information about the pregnancy.
- Pregnant state, incidental – Z33.1
 - What is the nature of the encounter?
 - Is the nature of the encounter pregnancy related?
 - Never used as a first-listed diagnosis as the code description states pregnancy is incidental, i.e., the reason for the patient's appointment was not pregnancy related, but the patient happens to be pregnant at the time of the appointment.
 - Definition of incidental
 - Occurring merely by chance or without intention or calculation.
 - Being likely to ensue as a chance or minor consequence.

This is not an all-inclusive list of guidelines and instructions for Z3A and Z33.1.

These are examples only and TriCore does not encourage use of these codes unless they describe the patient's condition and are documented in the patient's chart.

Please Refer to ICD-10-CM Coding Book and Guidelines For Further Guidance

- ICD-10-CM Coding Guidelines

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/2020-Coding-Guidelines.pdf>

- ICD-10-CM Coding Book download

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/2020-ICD-10-CM>

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/incidental>