ICD-10-CM DOCUMENTATION AND CODING BEST PRACTICES:

Premature Newborns and Hemolytic Disease of Newborns

Newborn Prematurity Overview

A pregnancy normally lasts about 40 weeks. A preterm birth is one that occurs before the 37th week of pregnancy. Some risk factors for a preterm birth include having a previous preterm birth and being pregnant with multiples. Complications associated with a preterm birth include immature lungs, difficulty regulating body temperature, poor feeding, and slow weight gain. Premature babies may need longer or more intense nursery care, medications and sometimes surgery.

Documentation and Coding Best Practices

Providers utilize different criteria in determining prematurity. A code for prematurity should not be assigned unless it is documented. Assignment of codes in category P07, Disorders of newborn related to short gestation and low birth weight, not elsewhere classified, should be based on the recorded birth weight and estimated gestational age.

When coding the birth episode in a newborn record, assign a code from category Z38, Liveborn infants according to place of birth and type of delivery, as the principal diagnosis. A code from category Z38 is assigned only once, to a newborn at the time of birth. If a newborn is transferred to another institution, a code from category Z38 should not be used at the receiving hospital. A code from category Z38 is only used on the newborn record, not the mother's record.

When both birth weight and gestational age are available, two codes from category P07 should be assigned, with the code for birth weight sequenced before the code for gestational age.

These codes are never for use on the maternal record. Codes from Chapter 15, the obstetric chapter, are never permitted on the newborn record.

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ICD-10-CM Information

P07.0 Extremely low birth weight newborn

P07.00 Extremely low birth weight newborn, unspecified weight

P07.01 Extremely low birth weight newborn, less than 500 grams

P07.02 Extremely low birth weight newborn, 500-749 grams

P07.03 Extremely low birth weight newborn, 750-999 grams

P07.1 Other low birth weight newborn

P07.10 Other low birth weight newborn, unspecified weight

P07.14 Other low birth weight newborn, 1000-1249 grams

P07.15 Other low birth weight newborn, 1250-1499 grams

P07.16 Other low birth weight newborn, 1500-1749 grams

P07.17 Other low birth weight newborn, 1750-1999 grams

P07.18 Other low birth weight newborn, 2000-2499 grams

P07.2 Extreme immaturity of newborn
Less than 28 completed weeks (less than 196 completed days) of gestation

P07.20 Extreme immaturity of newborn, unspecified weeks of gestation

P07.21 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age less than 23 completed weeks

P07.22 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 23 completed weeks

P07.23 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 24 completed weeks

P07.24 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 25 completed weeks

P07.25 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 26 completed weeks

P07.26 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 27 completed weeks

P07.3 Preterm [premature] newborn [other]
28 completed weeks or more but less than 37 completed weeks (196 days completed days but less than 259 completed days) of gestation

P07.30 Preterm newborn, unspecified weeks of gestation

P07.31 Preterm newborn, gestational age 28 completed weeks

P07.32 Preterm newborn, gestational age 29 completed weeks

P07.33 Preterm newborn, gestational age 30 completed weeks

P07.34 Preterm newborn, gestational age 31 completed weeks

P07.35 Preterm newborn, gestational age 32 completed weeks

P07.36 Preterm newborn, gestational age 33 completed weeks

P07.37 Preterm newborn, gestational age 34 completed weeks

P07.38 Preterm newborn, gestational age 35 completed weeks

P07.39 Preterm newborn, gestational age 36 completed weeks

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Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn Overview

Hemolytic disease of the newborn (HDN) is a blood problem in newborns. It occurs when the baby's red blood cells break down at a fast rate. It's also called erythroblastosis fetalis.

- Hemolytic means breaking down of red blood cells
- Erythroblastosis means making immature red blood cells
- Fetalis means fetus

What causes HDN in a newborn?

All people have a blood type (A, B, AB, or O). Everyone also has an Rh factor (positive of negative). There can be a problem if the mother and baby have a different blood type and Rh factor.

What are the symptoms of HDN in a newborn?

During pregnancy the following may be noted during a prenatal test:

- A yellow coloring of amniotic fluid. This color may be because of bilirubin. This is a substance that forms as blood cells breakdown.
- The baby may have a big liver, spleen or heart. There may be extra fluid in the stomach, lungs or scalp. These are signs of hydrops fetalis. This condition causes severe swelling (edema).

After birth, symptoms in the baby may include:

- Pale-looking skin.
- Yellow color of the baby's umbilical cord, skin, and the white of the baby's eyes (jaundice).
- Enlarged liver and spleen.

How is HDN diagnosed in a newborn?

- Blood test.
- Ultrasound.
- Amniocentesis
- Percutaneous umbilical cord blood sampling.

Treatment will depend on the newborn's symptoms, age and general health. It will also depend on how severe the condition is.

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ICD-10-CM Information

P55	**Hemolytic disease of the newborn**
P55.0	Rh isoimmunization of newborn
P55.1	ABO isoimmunization of newborn
P55.8	Other hemolytic diseases of the newborn
P55.9	Hemolytic disease of newborn, unspecified

P56	**Hydrops fetalis due to hemolytic disease**
P56.0	Hydrops fetalis due to isoimmunization
P56.9	Hydrops fetalis due to other and unspecified hemolytic disease
P56.90	Hydrops fetalis due to unspecified hemolytic disease
P56.99	Hydrops fetalis due to other hemolytic disease

Tip: A positive Coombs test without documentation of associated Rh isoimmunization should be coded to R79.89, Other specified abnormal findings of blood chemistry

Documentation and Coding Best Practices

Physician documentation should include elements such as:

- ✓ Comprehensive health and developmental history
- ✓ Comprehensive physical exam
- ✓ Screening services and assessments
- ✓ Laboratory tests and results

References

1. *"ICD-10". Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, CMS.gov. http://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding/icd10*
2. *"Maternal and Infant Health". Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control CDC, 27 January 2022, https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternalinfanthealth*