



## Coding for Newborn Care

### Counseling

Services bundled as a part of the routine obstetrics care visits should not be billed separately. Those services include education on breastfeeding and lactation. Postpartum care includes inpatient and outpatient services. The typical inpatient stay is 2 days for a vaginal delivery and 3 days after a cesarean delivery. Outpatient services include one visit for a vaginal delivery and two visits for a cesarean delivery.

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) includes the following services in the postpartum package:

- Routine outpatient visit(s) after delivery
- Routine inpatient visit(s) after delivery

Note that routine inpatient visit(s) immediately after delivery are considered part of the delivery and not reported separately.

The CPT global package does not include inpatient or outpatient Evaluation and Management (E/M) services or procedures performed to treat complications, illness, or disease unrelated to routine postpartum care.

Consultations on breastfeeding, lactation, and basic newborn care are considered a part of the global package and not billed separately. Only codes for complications, illness, or disease could be excluded from the routine postpartum care and billed separately.

Examples of complications that might require services in addition to the global obstetric code are:

- Infection of nipple associated with the puerperium (O91.02)
- Infection of nipple associated with lactation (O91.03)
- Abscess of breast associated with the puerperium (O91.12)
- Abscess of breast associated with lactation (O91.13)
- Nonpurulent mastitis associated with the puerperium (O91.22)
- Nonpurulent mastitis associated with lactation (O91.23)
- Retracted nipple associated with the puerperium (O92.02)
- Retracted nipple associated with lactation (O92.03)
- Cracked nipple associated with the puerperium (O92.12)
- Cracked nipple associated with lactation (O92.13)
- Unspecified disorder of breast associated with pregnancy and the puerperium (O92.20)
- Other disorders of breast associated with pregnancy and puerperium (O92.29)

- Agalactia (O92.3)
- Hypogalactia (O92.4)
- Suppressed lactation (O92.5)
- Galactorrhea (O92.6)
- Unspecified disorders of lactation (O92.70)
- Other disorders of lactation (O92.79)

For some high-risk pregnancies, a neonatal consultation during the antepartum period may be helpful in obstetric management and can assist the parents in understanding what to expect for their newborn. This is of particular importance when fetal anomalies are significant or the delivery of a very preterm infant is expected.

### Current Procedural Terminology Codes

According to the CPT, codes 99384–99397 include age-appropriate counseling, anticipatory guidance, or risk factor reduction interventions provided at the time of the initial or periodic comprehensive preventive medicine examinations. For counseling provided at a separate time from the preventive medicine examination encounter, codes 99401, 99402, 99403, 99404, 99411, and 99412 could be used:

- 99401 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual (separate procedure); approximately 15 minutes
- 99402 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual (separate procedure); approximately 30 minutes
- 99403 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual (separate procedure); approximately 45 minutes
- 99404 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual (separate procedure); approximately 60 minutes
- 99411 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to individuals in a group setting (separate procedure); approximately 30 minutes
- 99412 Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to individuals in a group setting (separate procedure); approximately 60 minutes

### Diagnosis Codes

- Z32.3 Encounter for child care instruction