

Root Operation: Creation

In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding and Medical Billing Professionals with ICD-10, the following coding tip is provided with an educational intent.

With PCS coding, the third character defines the root operation, or the objective of the procedure. The root operation “creation” has the third character value ‘4’ for codes in the Medical Surgical Section.

- **Definition:** Making a new genital structure that does not take over the function of a body part.
- **Objective:** This root operation is used only for sex change operations.
- **Site of Operation:** Male or female perineum.

Explanation: Because Creation procedure codes are assigned only for sex change operations and not performed on one specific body part, these codes are only found in anatomical regions, general subsection of the section of the Medical Surgical.

Example:

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 0W4M0 | Creation of a vagina in a male |
| 0W4N0 | Creation of a penis in a female |

Coding Clinic is the official resource and authority for ICD-10 coding rules and conventions.

This tip sheet was developed by the CHIA Coding and Data Quality Committee as an education resource. The information in this document is not intended to impart legal advice. This overview is intended as an educational tool only and should not be relied upon as legal or compliance advice. If you have any legal questions about the information contained herein, you should consult your attorney or other professional legal services provider.