

Type of hypertensive disorder during pregnancy code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Value Domain

METEOR identifier: 695740

Registration status:

- [Health](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

Definition: A code set representing the type of hypertensive disorder during pregnancy.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Code

Data type: Number

Format: N

Maximum character length: 1

Permissible values:

Value	Meaning
1	Eclampsia
2	Preeclampsia
3	Gestational hypertension
4	Chronic hypertension

Supplementary values: 9 Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

More than one code can be recorded when reporting on this data element. For example, for a female who has preeclampsia superimposed on chronic hypertension, record both Code 2 and Code 4. For a female who develops gestational hypertension which progresses to eclampsia, record both Code 1 and Code 3.

CODE 1 Eclampsia

Eclampsia is characterised by grand mal seizures, hypertension, proteinuria, oedema and may progress to coma. Before a seizure, a patient may experience a body temperature of over 40°C, anxiety, epigastric pain, severe headache and blurred vision. Complications of eclampsia may include cerebral haemorrhage, pulmonary oedema, renal failure, abruptio placentae and temporary blindness (NCCCH 2000).

CODE 2 Preeclampsia

Preeclampsia is a multi-system disorder characterised by hypertension and involvement of one or more other organ systems and/or the fetus. Proteinuria is the most commonly recognised additional feature after hypertension but should not be considered mandatory to make the clinical diagnosis.

A diagnosis of preeclampsia can be made when hypertension arises after 20 weeks gestation and is accompanied by one or more of the following: renal involvement, haematological involvement, liver involvement, neurological involvement, pulmonary oedema, fetal growth restriction, placental abruption.

Females with Haemolysis, Elevated Liver Enzymes, Low Platelet count (HELLP) syndrome, which is a variant of preeclampsia, are included.

CODE 3 Gestational hypertension

Gestational hypertension is characterised by the new onset of hypertension after 20 weeks gestation without any maternal or fetal features of preeclampsia, followed by return of blood pressure to normal within 3 months post-partum.

In practice, only the first part of this definition—'...the new onset of hypertension after 20 weeks gestation without any maternal or fetal features of preeclampsia...'—can be applied in the perinatal data context, as information is usually collected at birth.

CODE 4 Chronic hypertension

This may include essential or secondary hypertension. Essential hypertension is defined by a blood pressure greater than or equal to 140 mmHg systolic and/or greater than or equal to 90 mmHg diastolic confirmed before pregnancy or before 20 completed weeks gestation without a known cause. It may also be diagnosed in females presenting early in pregnancy taking antihypertensive medications where no secondary cause for hypertension has been determined.

Important secondary causes of chronic hypertension in pregnancy include:

- chronic kidney disease, e.g. glomerulonephritis, reflux nephropathy, and adult polycystic kidney disease
- renal artery stenosis
- systemic disease with renal involvement, e.g. diabetes mellitus or systemic lupus erythematosus
- endocrine disorders, e.g. phaeochromocytoma, Cushing's syndrome and primary hyperaldosteronism
- coarctation of the aorta.

Codes 3 and 4 are not to be recorded in conjunction with one another.

In the absence of any of the above conditions it is likely that a female with high blood pressure in the first half of pregnancy has essential hypertension.

Collection Methods: Diagnosis of eclampsia (Code 1) is to be based on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM) (ACCD 2017).

For all other values, diagnosis is to be based on Society of Obstetric Medicine of Australia and New Zealand (SOMANZ) Guideline for the Management of Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy (Lowe et al. 2014). If the clinician does not have information as to whether the above guidelines have been used, available information about diagnosis of hypertensive disorder is still to be reported.

The diagnosis is preferably derived from and substantiated by clinical documentation, which should be reviewed at the time of delivery. However, this information may not be available in which case the patient may self-report to the clinician that they have been diagnosed with a hypertensive disorder.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: ACCD (Australian Consortium for Classification Development) 2017. The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI) and Australian Coding Standards (ACS). 10th edn. Sydney: ACCD, University of Sydney.

Lowe SA, Bowyer L, Lust K, McMahon LP, Morton MR, North RA et al. 2014. Guideline for the management of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. Society of Obstetric Medicine of Australia and New Zealand.

NCCH (National Centre for Classification in Health) 2000. The 10-AM commandments: Pregnancy-induced hypertension, pre-eclampsia and eclampsia. Coding matters 6(4):13–14.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Type of hypertensive disorder during pregnancy code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

Has been superseded by [Type of hypertensive disorder during pregnancy code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

Data elements implementing this value domain: [Female—type of hypertensive disorder during pregnancy, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

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