



AMERICAN
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Index

- Main index term is a root operation, root procedure type, or common procedure name. Examples are:
 - Resection
 - Fluoroscopy
 - Prostatectomy

Tables

- When reviewing tables, sometimes there are multiple tables for the first three characters and they may cover multiple pages in the code book.

Medical & Surgical Section (0)

Medical and Surgical Section

Section Value 0





Root Operation Groupings

- Nine groups
- Arranged by similar attributes

- Root Operations That Take Out Some or All of a Body Part
- Root Operations That Take Out Solids/Fluids/Gases From a Body Part
- Root Operations Involving Cutting or Separation Only
- Root Operations That Put In/Put Back or Move Some/All of a Body Part



Root Operation Groupings

- Nine groups
- Arranged by similar attributes

- Root Operations That Alter the Diameter/Route of a Tubular Body Part
- Root Operations That Always Involve a Device
- Root Operations Involving Examination Only
- Root Operations That Define Other Repairs
- Root Operations that Define Other Objectives



Root Operations Group - 1

Root Operations That Take Out Some or All of a Body Part

Excision (B)



Resection (T)



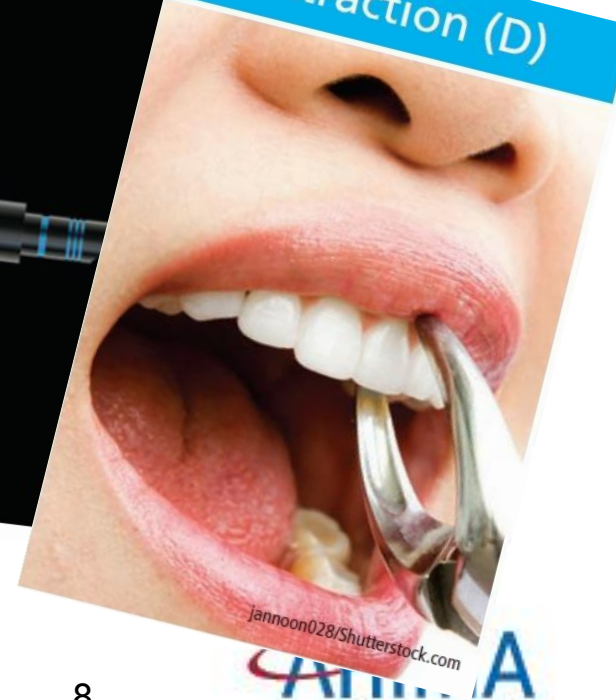
Detachment (6)



Destruction (5)



Extraction (D)



Excision (B)

Excision (B)	Definition Cutting out or off, without replacement, a portion of a body part
 Kanwarjit Singh Boparai/Shutterstock.com	Explanation The qualifier Diagnostic is used to identify excision procedures that are biopsies
	Examples Partial nephrectomy, liver biopsy, breast lumpectomy, breast reduction for medical reasons (for cosmetic reasons is Alteration), Excisional debridement (non-excisional debridement is Extraction)

Excision

- Excision is coded when a portion of a body part is cut out or off using a sharp instrument. All root operations that employ cutting to accomplish the objective allow the use of any sharp instrument, including but not limited to:
 - Scalpel
 - Wire
 - Scissors
 - Bone saw
 - Electrocautery tip



Coding Note: Bone Marrow and Endometrial Biopsies – Bone marrow and endometrial biopsies are not coded to **Excision**. They are coded to **Extraction**, with the qualifier Diagnostic

Case To Code

The patient is admitted for a vertical sleeve gastrectomy for weight loss. The greater curvature of the stomach is removed laparoscopically.

Case Answer

0DB64Z3 Root Operation: Excision
Excision, Stomach (0DB6)

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Gastrointestinal System	D
Root	Excision	B
Body Part	Stomach	6
Approach	Percutaneous Endoscopic	4
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	Vertical	3



Rationale

The seventh character, qualifier, captures that the procedure is a vertical sleeve gastrectomy.

Resection (T)

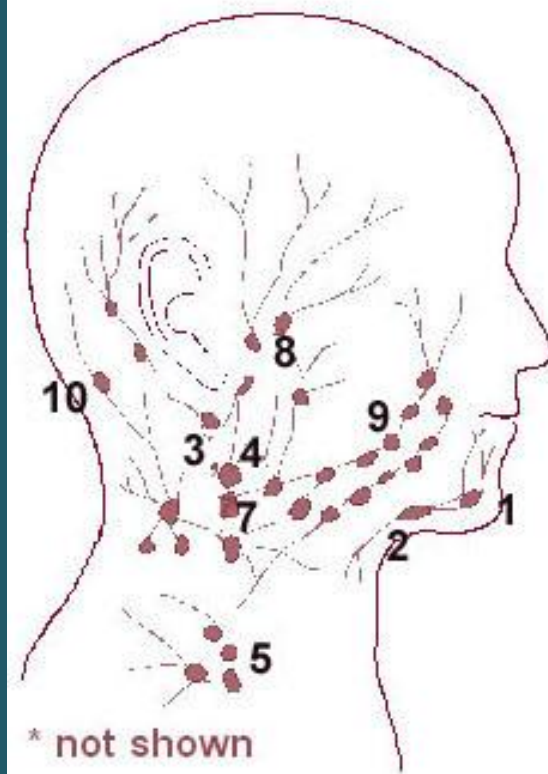


Definition	Cutting out or off, without replacement, all of a body part
Explanation	N/A
Examples	Total nephrectomy, total lobectomy of lung, total mastectomy

Resection is similar to **Excision** except **Resection** includes all of a body part, or any subdivision of a body part that has its own body part value in ICD-10-PCS, while **Excision** includes only a portion of a body part.

Coding Note

When an entire lymph node chain is cut out, the appropriate root operation is **Resection**. When a lymph node(s) is cut out, the root operation is **Excision**.



1. submental
2. submandibular
3. jugular (deep cervical)
4. superficial cervical
5. supraclavicular
6. prelaryngeal* and paratracheal*
7. retropharyngeal
8. parotid
9. buccal
10. retroauricular and occipital

National Cancer Institute

Coding Note: Documentation

There is an opportunity to provide physician education on the need for more complete documentation in the medical record on the following:

- Lymph node(s) versus the complete chain
- The complete body part removal versus a portion

Case To Code

A scope with instrumentation was inserted via small incisions in the left neck region and the left lobe of the thyroid gland was removed in total. Biopsies were then taken from surrounding lymph nodes and the scope and instrumentation were then removed.

Case Answer

- 0GTG4ZZ Root Operation: Resection
Resection, Thyroid Gland, Left
Lobe (0GTG)
- 07B24ZX Root Operation: Excision
Excision, Lymphatic, Neck, Left
(07B2)

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Endocrine System	G
Root	Resection	T
Body Part	Thyroid Gland Lobe, Left	G
Approach	Percutaneous Endoscopic	4
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Lymphatic and Hemic Systems	7
Root	Excision	B
Body Part	Lymphatic, Left Neck	2
Approach	Percutaneous Endoscopic	4
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	Diagnostic	X

Rationale

The lobes of the thyroid have their own distinct body part values in ICD-10-PCS; therefore, this is a Resection of the left thyroid lobe rather than an Excision of the thyroid gland. The seventh character, Qualifier, is “X”, Diagnostic, for biopsy procedures.

Detachment (6)

Detachment	Definition	Cutting off all or part of the upper or lower extremities
Detachment (6)		
	Explanation	The body part value is the site of the detachment, with a qualifier if applicable to further specify the level where the extremity was detached
	Examples	Below knee amputation, disarticulation of shoulder, amputation above elbow

Detachment = Amputation

- Detachment procedure codes are found only in body systems X, Anatomical Regions, Upper Extremities and Y, Anatomic Regions, Lower Extremities because amputations are performed on extremities across overlapping body layers and so could not be coded to a specific musculoskeletal body system such as the bones or joints.

Detachment Qualifiers

The specific qualifiers used for **Detachment** are dependent on the body part value in the upper and lower extremities body systems.

Example: Table 0X6

Definitions established for:

- Upper arm and leg
- Hand and foot
- Thumb, finger, toe
- Complete/partial
- High, Mid, Low



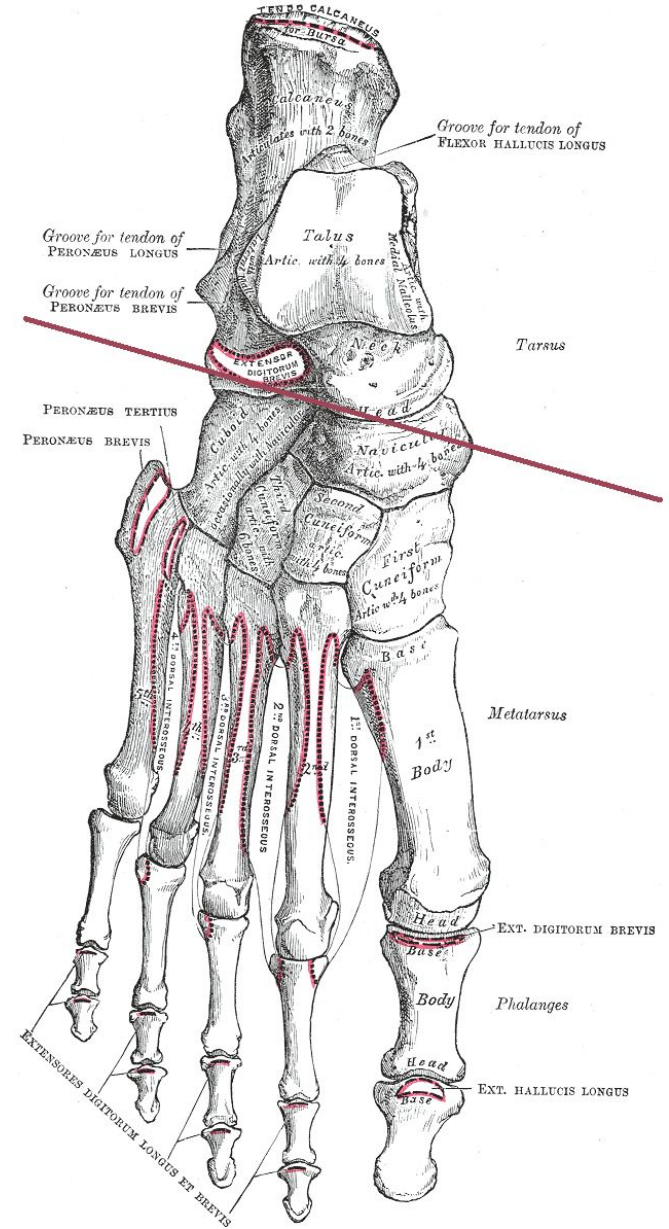
Coding Note: Documentation

There is an opportunity to provide physician education on the need for more complete documentation in the medical record on the actual location of the amputation.

According to the definition, the coding professional needs to know if the amputation is at the proximal, middle, or distal portion of the *shaft* of the humerus, femur, radius/ulna, or tibia/fibula.

Tip

This is a picture of the hand or foot which illustrates that the rays are the metacarpal or metatarsal bones and are numbered beginning with 1 at the medial side moving to 5 on the lateral side.



- **Coding Note: Qualifier Value –**
When a surgeon uses the word “toe” to describe the amputation, but the operative report says he extends the amputation to the midshaft of the fifth metatarsal, which is the foot, the qualifier is Partial 5th Ray.



Gray's Anatomy 1918

Case To Code

The patient's left leg was prepped and draped. Using a fishmouth incision, the distal aspect of the thigh was entered. Using the scalpel, the skin and subcutaneous tissue were incised. The muscle groups were separated and the vessels were secured and doubly ligated using free ties of 0-Vicryl. The femoral nerve was secured. The distal femur was transected using a saw, and the edges were rasped smooth. Hemostasis was achieved, and the muscle groups, the hamstrings, and the quadriceps were approximated. The subcutaneous tissue was then reapproximated, and the skin was closed with staples.

Case Answer

0Y6D0Z3 Root Operation: Detachment
Detachment, Leg, Upper Left
(0Y6D0Z)
Amputation see Detachment

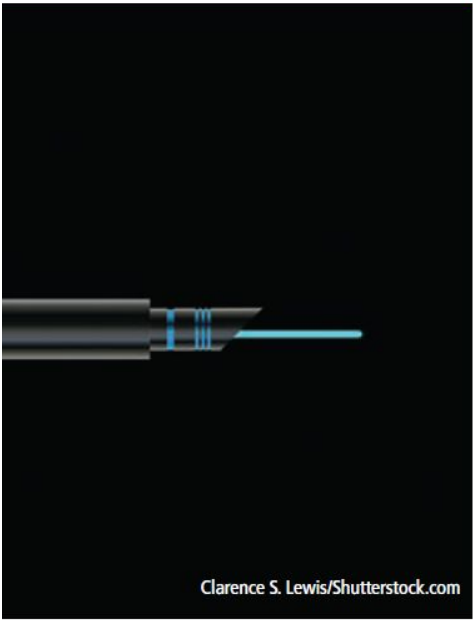
Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Anatomical Regions, Lower Extremities	Y
Root	Detachment	6
Body Part	Upper Leg, Left	D
Approach	Open	0
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	Low	3

Rationale

The upper leg (body part value C) is detached at the distal end of the femur, qualifier value 3 or Low amputation.

Destruction (5)

Destruction (5)	Definition	Physical eradication of all or a portion of a body part by the direct use of energy, force or a destructive agent
 Clarence S. Lewis/Shutterstock.com	Explanation	None of the body part is physically taken out
	Examples	Fulguration of rectal polyp, cautery of skin lesion, fulguration of endometrium

Destruction

- Destruction “takes out” a body part in the sense that it obliterates the body part so it is no longer there.
- Defines a broad range of common procedures, since it can be used anywhere in the body to treat a variety of conditions, including:
 - Skin and genital warts
 - Nasal and colon polyps
 - Esophageal varices
 - Endometrial implants
 - Nerve lesions



Tip

Think of common documented terms for a Destruction root operation such as Ablation, Destruction, Fulguration, Cryotherapy, Cautery, Coagulation, Sclerotherapy, Pleurodesis.

Coding Note

Usually there would be no pathology report present for Destruction procedures because it is destroyed or obliterated. Occasionally, tissue remains in an instrument, and may be sent to pathology.

Case To Code

The patient has condylomas of the cervix, vagina and vulva. Laser speculum was inserted via the vagina and using Xener on 20-watt setting, the laser was used to obliterate the condyloma in both the vagina and cervix. The laser speculum was then removed. The laser was then used to obliterate the third condyloma in the vulva area.

Case Answer

- 0U5C7ZZ Root Operation: Destruction
Destruction, Cervix (0U5C)
- 0U5G7ZZ Root Operation: Destruction
Destruction, Vagina (0U5G)
- 0U5MXZZ Root Operation: Destruction
Destruction, Vulva (0U5M)

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Female Reproductive System	U
Root	Destruction	5
Body Part	Cervix	C
Approach	Via Natural or Artificial Opening	7
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Female Reproductive System	U
Root	Destruction	5
Body Part	Vagina	G
Approach	Via Natural or Artificial Opening	7
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Female Reproductive System	U
Root	Destruction	5
Body Part	Vulva	M
Approach	External	X
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Rationale

Three codes are required for this procedure, since condylomas were removed from three separate and distinct body parts: cervix, vagina, and vulva. The root operation Destruction is the correct root operation for all three procedures as a laser was utilized to obliterate the condylomas. The approach for the cervix and vagina is 7, Via Natural or Artificial Opening, and the approach for the vulva is X, External.

Extraction (D)

Extraction (D)



Definition Pulling or stripping out or off all or a portion of a body part by the use of force

Explanation The qualifier **Diagnostic** is used to identify extraction procedures that are biopsies

Examples Dilation and curettage, vein stripping, phacoemulsification without IOL implant (phacoemulsification with IOL implant is **Replacement**), non-excisional debridement (excisional debridement is excision), liposuction for medical reasons (liposuction for cosmetic reasons is **Alteration**)

Extraction

- Extraction is coded when the method employed to take out the body part is pulling or stripping. Minor cutting, such as that used in vein stripping procedures, is included in Extraction if the objective of the procedure is nevertheless met by pulling or stripping. Cutting used to reach the procedure site is specified in the approach value.

Tips

- During a liposuction, a small incision is made in the skin and a suction tube with a sharp end is inserted into the fat pockets. The instrument has been described as a long, thin, hollow shaft ending in a small, sharp-edged spoon. This is swept through the area between the skin layers and the deeper subcutaneous tissue, and then the vacuum pump suctions it out.
- In a vein stripping, two small incisions are made—one above and one below the specified vein. These incisions are included in the Extraction root operation (see definitions above). A thin, flexible plastic wire is then threaded into the vein (at the top part) and guided toward the other cut. The vein is pulled out when the wire is pulled out through the lower cut. Hooks may also be used in the procedure.
- Visit MedlinePlus at the US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health to get information on these and other surgical procedures. Many excellent videos and tutorials are available.

Coding Note: Documentation

Be careful of documentation. It is important to convert common terminology to the appropriate root operation according to the intent of the procedure. For example, the procedure documentation may say removal, but in actuality, using PCS definitions, an extraction was performed. Removal of a thumbnail would be coded to Extraction. The root operation of Removal is not correct because by definition a Removal in ICD-10-PCS is defined as taking out or off a device from a body part.

Case To Code

The patient has an ingrown toenail of the right great toe. A nail elevator is slid under the cuticle and the nail plate is identified. The right piece of nail is grasped with a hemostat and removed in one piece, pulling straight out. The left piece of nail is grasped and removed in a similar manner. Next, electrocautery ablation is used to destroy the nail matrix where the nail was removed.

Case Answer

0HDRXZZ Root Operation: Extraction
Extraction, Toe Nail (0HDRXZZ)

0H5RXZZ Root Operation: Destruction
Destruction, Toe Nail (0H5RXZZ)

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Skin and Breast	H
Root	Extraction	D
Body Part	Toe Nail	R
Approach	External	X
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Case Table

Section	Medical and Surgical	0
Body System	Skin and Breast	H
Root	Destruction	5
Body Part	Toe Nail	R
Approach	External	X
Device	No Device	Z
Qualifier	No Qualifier	Z

Rationale

ICD-10-PCS Coding Guideline B3.2c states that multiple procedures are coded if multiple root operations with distinct objectives are performed on the same body part. Two codes are assigned to this case since two distinct root operations were performed. The root operation Extraction is coded due to the fact that the nail plate is pulled out. The body part value R, Toe Nail is assigned for the fourth character. The nail matrix, still part of the body part R, Toenail, is destroyed by electrocautery.

Questions on Group 1?