
Documentation Dissection

Exercise #2

Diagnosis: Third-degree cystocele, second-degree uterine prolapse ^[1]

Procedure: Pessary Fitting ^[2]

Indications: A 75-year-old, gravida 2, para 2, female with pelvic organ prolapse. She had atrophic vaginitis so we had her use Premarin vaginal cream twice a week for 6 weeks. She is back for a pessary fitting ^[3] today.

Findings: She has a third-degree cystocele, and now third-degree uterine prolapse ^[4]. Her vaginal tissues are improved, although still atrophic, but much less than prior appointment. She has a first-degree, rectocele ^[5].

Description of Procedure: After her exam, I started with a #4 ring pessary with support. This was clearly not large enough and the cystocele was coming around it. I then went to a #5 ring pessary with support with the same problem. I went to the #6 ring pessary with support. It did not lodge behind her pubic bone very well, but it definitely reduced all of her prolapse. She mentioned earlier in the appointment that she could not void when she came in today. I am hopeful the pessary may help. The #6 pessary was comfortable for her ^[6]. I stood her up and put her through some maneuvers and it stayed nicely in place. Then she went walking with it in for 10 or 15 minutes and went up and down the stairs. She definitely was able to void easily with that in. It was comfortable and she did not really notice it was in.

On recheck it still seemed like she had a little more room in the pelvis. I removed the #6 and went up to a #7 size. This seemed to reduce the prolapse a bit better, but was a little uncomfortable for her. We went back to a size #6 ring pessary with support ^[7]. She was able to remove it and place it with instruction.

Disposition: We have ordered the #6 pessary with support and it will be sent to her ^[8]. After she gets the pessary, she will remove it once a week and leave it out overnight. She will continue to use the Premarin vaginal cream twice a week. She will return to the office after she has used the pessary for 2 or 3 weeks, so we can check her tissues. She is to report if she has vaginal discharge or bleeding, as she is at risk for getting ulceration from the pessary.

^[1] Diagnosis is cystocele with uterine prolapse.

^[2] Planned procedure is a pessary fitting.

^[3] Confirmation of the pessary fitting.

^[4] Confirms third-degree cystocele. Identifies a change in the diagnosis of the uterine prolapse from second degree to third degree.

^[5] Identifies an additional diagnosis of a first-degree rectocele.

^[6] Placement of the pessary.

^[7] Recheck of pessary to confirm the size.

^[8] Pessary was ordered and not given to the patient; a HCPCS Level II code is not needed.

What are the CPT® and ICD-10-CM codes reported?

CPT® Code: 57160

ICD-10-CM Code: N81.3, N81.6

Rationales:

CPT®: In the CPT Index, look for Insertion/Pessary/Vagina, referring you to 57160. Review the numeric section and the code is confirmed as 57160.

ICD-10-CM: Documentation indicates that the patient has a third-degree cystocele, a third-degree uterine prolapse, and a first-degree rectocele. A cystocele and a uterine prolapse codes are determined based on the severity. A third-degree cystocele is the most advanced and occurs when the anterior vaginal wall and underlying urethra and bladder are outside the hymen and it is often part of a third-degree uterine prolapse. A third-degree uterine prolapse means the cervix is outside the vagina. In the ICD-10-CM Index, look for Prolapse/uterus/third degree, referring you to N81.3. Verify code in the Tabular List. When you look up Cystocele subcategory N81.1, Excludes1 lists cystocele with prolapse of uterus (N81.1-N81.4); therefore, the cystocele is included in N81.3 and not reported. There is an Excludes2 note under N81.6 listing code range N81.2-N81.4. Meaning code N81.6 can be reported with N81.3.
