Cleft Lip with Cleft Palate

(Core Condition)

Description

A defect in the upper lip resulting from incomplete fusion of the parts of the lip, with an opening in the roof of the mouth.



Inclusions

Cleft lip with cleft of the hard and soft palate
Cleft lip with cleft of the hard palate
Cleft lip with cleft of the soft palate
Cleft lip with cleft palate, not otherwise specified
Cheilopalatoschisis

Exclusions

Pseudocleft lip with cleft palate – An abnormal linear thickening, depressed grove, or scar-like pigmentary change on the skin of the lip without an actual cleft.

Oblique facial clefts with cleft palate
Cleft palate without an associated cleft lip
Cleft lip without an associated cleft palate

ICD-9-CM Codes

749.20 - 749.25 (only these combined cleft palate with cleft lip codes should be used, not cleft lip or cleft palate codes individually)

ICD-10-CM Codes

Q37.0 – Q37.9 (only these combined cleft palate with cleft lip codes should be used, not cleft lip or cleft palate codes individually)

CDC/BPA Codes

749.20 – 749.29 (only these combined cleft lip with cleft palate codes should be used, not cleft lip or cleft palate codes individually)

Diagnostic Methods

Cleft lip is usually easily recognized on physical examination after delivery. It may also be seen on CT or MRI scan, at surgery or autopsy; plastic surgery consultation reports are often useful.

Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally

While this condition may be identified by prenatal ultrasound, it should not be included in birth defects surveillance data without postnatal confirmation. In addition, the absence of cleft lip on prenatal ultrasound does not necessarily mean that it will not be diagnosed after delivery.

Additional Information:

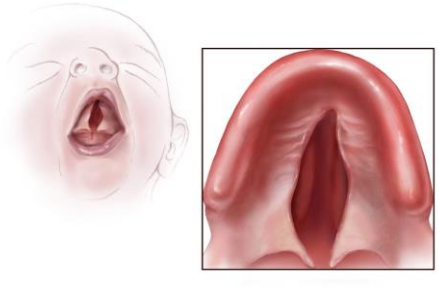
Cleft lip with cleft palate may be unilateral, bilateral, or central in location, or not otherwise specified. If the defect coding system includes unique codes for these different types, the location of the cleft should be coded

Cleft Palate Alone (without Cleft Lip)

(Core Condition)

Description

An opening in the roof of the mouth resulting from incomplete fusion of the shelves of the palate. The opening may involve the hard palate only, the soft palate only, or both.



Inclusions

Bifid or cleft uvula
Cleft palate, type not specified
Cleft hard palate
Cleft soft palate
Submucous cleft palate – A cleft in the soft palate that is covered by the mucosa or a thin muscle layer.

Exclusions

Cleft palate that coexists with a cleft lip. These should be coded as cleft lip with cleft palate (see above).

ICD-9-CM Codes

749.0

ICD-10-CM Codes

Q35.1 – Q35.9

CDC/BPA Codes

749.00 – 749.09

Diagnostic Methods

Cleft palate is usually recognized on physical examination by direct visualization of the pharynx after delivery. It may also be seen on CT or MRI scan, at surgery or autopsy; plastic surgery consultation reports are often useful. However, submucous cleft palate and bifid uvula may be difficult to diagnose by physical examination during the first year of life.

Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally

This condition should not be included in birth defects surveillance data without postnatal confirmation.

Additional Information:

Cleft palate may be unilateral, bilateral, or central in location. If the defect coding system includes unique codes for these different types, the location of the cleft should be coded. Cleft palate sometimes may be described as U-shaped or V-shaped. This distinction is not clinically meaningful and these conditions should not be coded differently.

Bifid uvula is often seen in association with a submucous cleft palate. However, bifid uvula also may occur alone. The presence of submucous cleft palate does not necessarily mean that a bifid uvula is present. Cleft palate is one component of the Pierre Robin sequence, which also includes micrognathia and glossoptosis (when the tongue falls backward into the posterior pharynx). When diagnosed, Pierre Robin sequence should be coded separately.