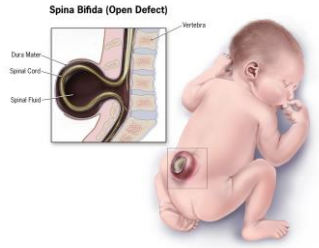
Spina Bifida without Anencephaly

(Core Condition)

Description

Incomplete closure of the vertebral spine (usually posteriorly) through which spinal cord tissue and/or the membranes covering the spine (meninges) herniate.



Inclusions

Lipomeningocele
Lipomyelomeningocele
Meningocele – Herniation of meninges only.
Meningomyelocele, Myelomeningocele – Herniation of meninges and spinal cord tissue
Myelocystocele
Myelodysplasia
Myeloschisis
Open spina bifida
Rachischisis – Open spina bifida without meninges covering the spinal cord tissue
Spina bifida aperta
Spina bifida cystica

Exclusions

Diastematomyelia
Diplomyelia
Hydromyelia
Spina bifida with coexisting anencephaly – Code only as anencephaly
Spina bifida occulta
Syringomyelia
Tethered spinal cord

ICD-9-CM Codes

741.0 or 741.9 without 740.0 – 740.1

ICD-10-CM Codes

Q05.0 - Q05.9 or Q07.01 or Q07.03 without Q00.0 - Q00.1

CDC/BPA Codes

741.00 – 741.99 without 740.00 – 740.10

Diagnostic Methods

The majority of defects result in a direct opening on the infant's back that is easily recognized on physical examination at delivery. However, the exact nature of the defect (meningocele vs. myelomeningocele) may only be distinguished by CT or MRI scan, at surgery, or at autopsy.

Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally

Spina bifida may be included when only diagnosed prenatally. However, if it is possible to ascertain the degree of certainty of the prenatal diagnosis, this should factor into the decision as to whether or not to include an individual case in the surveillance data. In addition, the absence of spina bifida on prenatal ultrasound does not necessarily mean that it will not be diagnosed after delivery.

Additional Information: