


## Spina Bifida without Anencephaly

(Core Condition)

<b>Description</b>	Incomplete closure of the vertebral spine (usually posteriorly) through which spinal cord tissue and/or the membranes covering the spine (meninges) herniate.	 The image contains two parts. On the left is a cross-sectional diagram of the spine labeled 'Spina Bifida (Open Defect)'. It shows the vertebral arches and the spinal cord. Labels include 'Dorsal Root', 'Ventral Root', 'Spinal Cord', and 'Vertebral Arch'. An arrow points to a gap in the vertebral arch where the spinal cord is protruding. On the right is a photograph of a baby lying on its back, showing a visible red, fleshy protrusion from the lower back, which is the external manifestation of the spinal defect.
<b>Inclusions</b>	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	
<b>Exclusions</b>	Diastematomyelia Diplomyelia Hydromyelia Spina bifida with coexisting anencephaly – Code only as anencephaly Spina bifida occulta Syringomyelia Tethered spinal cord	
<b>ICD-9-CM Codes</b>	741.0 or 741.9 without 740.0 – 740.1	
<b>ICD-10-CM Codes</b>	Q05.0 - Q05.9 or Q07.01 or Q07.03 without Q00.0 - Q00.1	
<b>CDC/BPA Codes</b>	741.00 – 741.99 without 740.00 – 740.10	
<b>Diagnostic Methods</b>	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.	
<b>Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally</b>	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.	