

## Summary of July 2020 changes to Delen COVID-19 National Clinical Coding Standards and Guidance

### COVID-19, virus identified (U07.1)

#### DCS.XXII.5: COVID-19 (U07.1)

Last updated: ~~27 April 2020 (provided additional clarification of existing standards and guidance)~~ [30 June 2020 \(updated to reflect changes to sequencing of COVID-19 with non-COVID related conditions\).](#)

Code **U07.1 Emergency use of U07.1** must only be assigned for laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 (i.e. positive test result).

Codes for conditions classified outside of Chapter XVIII Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified that are documented as being due to COVID-19 must be assigned after **U07.1** and immediately followed by **B97.2 Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters**. This will indicate those conditions that are due to COVID-19 for future data analysis.

Symptom codes from Chapter XVIII must be assigned in addition to a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 (**U07.1**) in patients who present with symptoms where no condition classified outside of Chapter XVIII is diagnosed. This is an exception to **DChS.XVIII.1: Signs, symptoms and abnormal laboratory findings** and must only be applied to cases of COVID-19. Code **B97.2** must not be assigned following Chapter XVIII symptom codes.

**U07.1** can be used alone in cases of laboratory confirmed COVID-19 where patients are asymptomatic.

Codes **B34.2 Coronavirus infection, unspecified site** and **B97.2** must not be used with **U07.1**, as **U07.1** fully classifies the COVID-19 disease resulting from SARS-CoV-2 infection.

~~**U07.1** must appear in the primary diagnosis field except in cases where:~~

- ~~• a positive COVID-19 laboratory test is an incidental finding in an asymptomatic patient~~
- ~~• a patient is admitted and treated or investigated for another condition, is diagnosed, via laboratory test, with COVID-19 but does not require any medical treatment for the COVID-19.~~

~~Where **U07.1** does not appear in the primary diagnosis field, it must be sequenced directly following the code for the primary diagnosis, except where another standard prevents this such as the use of codes in category **Z37.-** in **DChS.XV.1: Outcome of delivery (Z37)**. This ensures that COVID-19 is recorded in systems and data collections where diagnostic code fields are limited.~~

**See also:**

- ~~• **DGCS.1: Primary diagnosis**~~
- **DGCS.6: Infections**
- **DCS.I.4: Bacterial, viral and other infectious agents (B95-B98)**

## Sequencing of COVID-19 (U07.1 and U07.2)

### COVID-19, virus identified (U07.1) and COVID-19, virus not identified (U07.2)

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This standard must only be applied to episodes ending after 01 July 2020.

When the main condition treated or investigated in patients with COVID-19 (**U07.1** or **U07.2**) is unrelated to COVID-19, **DGCS.1: Primary diagnosis** must be applied.

Where **U07.1** or **U07.2** does not appear in the primary diagnosis field, it must be sequenced directly after the code for the primary diagnosis, except where another standard prevents this, such as the use of codes in category **Z37.-** in **DChS.XV.1: Outcome of delivery (Z37)**. This ensures that COVID-19 is recorded in systems and data collections where diagnostic code fields are limited.

Where a condition or symptom documented as being due to, or caused by, COVID-19 is the main condition treated or investigated, **U07.1** or **U07.2** must be assigned in the primary diagnosis position followed by the code(s) for the condition or symptom.

## Coding COVID-19 in Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium

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[Last updated: 30 June 2020](#) (updated to reflect changes to sequencing of COVID-19 with non-COVID related conditions).

### Obstetric care for confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19

Assign the following codes when COVID-19 is complicating the pregnant state, aggravating the pregnancy, or is the main reason for obstetric care:

**U07.1 Emergency use of U07.1 or U07.2 Emergency use of U07.2**  
**O98.5 Other viral diseases complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium**

Code(s) to identify manifestation or symptoms (where applicable)

Manifestations of COVID-19 (e.g. pneumonia) must be followed by **B97.2 Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters**. However, **B34.2 Coronavirus infection, unspecified site** or **B97.2** must not be assigned in addition to **O98.5** as **U07.1** classifies the COVID-19 disease resulting from SARS-CoV-2 infection.

### Confirmed case of COVID-19 during labour and delivery

~~In cases where COVID-19 is an incidental finding in an asymptomatic patient or a patient is diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not require any medical treatment for COVID-19, assign U07.1 following the main condition related to labour or delivery. Ensure sequencing of Z37 Outcome of delivery is applied as per DChS.XV.1: Outcome of delivery (Z37). (See also Application of DGCS.1: Primary diagnosis with U07.1)~~

[When an obstetric condition in patients with COVID-19 \(U07.1 or U07.2\) is the main condition treated or investigated, DGCS.1: Primary diagnosis must be applied. See also Sequencing of COVID-19 \(U07.1 and U07.2\)](#)

Code(s) to identify any manifestation or symptoms of COVID-19 (where applicable) must be assigned following **U07.1**.

**B97.2 Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters** may also be assigned to other codes from Chapter XV to identify that a manifestation or symptom is complicating labour or delivery, for example **O75.2 Pyrexia during labour, not elsewhere classified**.

**Example:**

*Patient admitted for induction of labour at 38 weeks for Intrauterine Growth Retardation (IUGR). Patient developed pyrexia in labour and subsequently tested positive for COVID-19 but did not require any treatment for the COVID-19. Baby girl born.*

**O36.5 Maternal care for poor fetal growth**

**Z37.0 Single live birth**

**U07.1 Emergency use of U07.1**

**O75.2 Pyrexia during labour, not elsewhere classified**

**B97.2 Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters**

**DCS.XV.28: Delivery (O80–O84)** must be applied for cases of normal deliveries (no other conditions classifiable to Chapter XV) where the patient is COVID-19 positive but asymptomatic and does not require treatment.

**Example:**

*Spontaneous vertex delivery of baby boy at 38 weeks. Patient is asthmatic, takes Ventolin as required. Tested positive for COVID-19 but asymptomatic.*

**O80.0 Spontaneous vertex delivery**

**Z37.0 Single live birth**

**U07.1 Emergency use of U07.1**

**J45.9 Asthma, unspecified**