

# I46.0 Cardiac arrest with successful resuscitation

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Codes from block I46 are only assigned where a resuscitation intervention is undertaken, regardless of the patient outcome. Codes in this block exclude cardiogenic shock (R57.0).

Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart stops pumping blood around the body. This is usually the result of an underlying heart condition such as ventricular fibrillation but may also be the result of non-cardiac causes such as respiratory arrest, choking, trauma, electric shock or drowning.



As per National coding advice Reference Number Q3079 (Published 15 June 2017), where a patient has a cardiac arrest prior to admission, and is admitted following successful resuscitation (e.g. performed by paramedics):

- if there is documentation of an underlying cause, assign a code for the underlying cause only
- if there is no documentation of an underlying cause, assign I46.0 *Cardiac arrest with successful resuscitation*.

Ongoing data analysis of diagnosis code I46.0 *Cardiac arrest with successful resuscitation* continues to identify episodes of care where both this code and the underlying cause are incorrectly assigned.

Another data quality issue identified in the analysis is the assigning of the incorrect Condition onset flag (COF). For example, I46.0 has COF 1 'Condition present on admission', but the cardiac arrest and associated resuscitation occurred during the episode of care.

Key points:

- When coding an out of hospital arrest, only assign I46.0 *Cardiac arrest with successful resuscitation* if there is no underlying cause(s) documented.
- Ensure that the COF accurately reflects where the cardiac arrest and resuscitation occurred.
- As noted in Australian Coding Standards (ACS) 0048 Condition onset flag, point 7 Guide for use, if the patient came in with cardiac arrest (known underlying cause) and suffers with another cardiac arrest requiring resuscitation (successful) during admission, COF for I46.0 will be 2 (QLD) Condition arose during the episode of care.