

Active Mechanical Clearance (AMC)

FY 2027 ICD-10-PCS Coding Quick Reference Guide

Effective for applicable hospital inpatient discharges beginning October 1, 2026

1 Fast Coding Path

1 RECOGNIZE	2 BODY PART	3 APPROACH	4 SELECT & VALIDATE
Documented AMC drainage procedure	Where was AMC drainage performed?	How was the procedure site reached?	Choose the supported AMC code
AMC / Active Mechanical Clearance / PleuraFlow / other clear clinical description establishing AMC	9 - Right Pleural Cavity B - Left Pleural Cavity C - Mediastinum	0 - Open 3 - Percutaneous 4 - Percutaneous Endoscopic	Use the complete record and current FY 2027 PCS table/guidance

2 FY 2027 AMC Code Family

Code pattern: **0 W 9 [BODY PART] [APPROACH] 0 3** | Only Body Part + Approach vary

Body Part	Open (0)	Percutaneous (3)	Percutaneous Endoscopic (4)
9 — Right Pleural Cavity	0W99003	0W99303	0W99403
B — Left Pleural Cavity	0W9B003	0W9B303	0W9B403
C — Mediastinum	0W9C003	0W9C303	0W9C403

Fixed values: Root Operation 9 — Drainage ("Taking or letting out fluids and/or gases from a body part") • Device 0 — Drainage Device
 • Qualifier 3 — Active Mechanical Clearance

CARDIAC-SURGERY APPROACH: Open is expected in the large majority of PleuraFlow cardiac-surgery cases. A separate chest-tube exit/stab incision does not by itself establish Percutaneous; final approach selection is based on documented operative access.

Official FY 2027 AMC Code Titles

Code	Official long title — verified FY 2027 CMS Order File
0W99003	Drainage of Right Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Open Approach
0W99303	Drainage of Right Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Approach
0W99403	Drainage of Right Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach
0W9B003	Drainage of Left Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Open Approach
0W9B303	Drainage of Left Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Approach
0W9B403	Drainage of Left Pleural Cavity with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach
0W9C003	Drainage of Mediastinum with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Open Approach
0W9C303	Drainage of Mediastinum with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Approach
0W9C403	Drainage of Mediastinum with Drainage Device, Active Mechanical Clearance, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach

3 Key Rules at a Glance

DOCUMENTATION / RECOGNITION - Documentation may identify AMC as AMC, Active Mechanical Clearance, PleuraFlow, or another clear clinical description that establishes the AMC procedure. - Exact ICD-10-PCS terminology does not need to appear verbatim when the procedure is otherwise clear. - Use the complete medical record; required elements may appear in different parts of the record.	APPROACH - Open: procedure site exposed through the operative incision. - Percutaneous: puncture/minor incision to reach the site without endoscopic visualization. - Percutaneous Endoscopic: puncture/minor incision to reach and visualize the site. - Robotic/MIS/minimally invasive terminology does not independently determine the AMC approach.
MULTIPLE DEVICES / LOCATIONS - Same body part + same approach + same operative episode: one AMC code for that supported combination, regardless of the number of PleuraFlow devices. - Distinct supported PCS body parts: evaluate and code each location separately as applicable. - Right and left pleural cavities are separate body parts; there is no bilateral pleural-cavity value in this table.	CLARIFICATION / SCOPE - If a required code-selection element cannot reasonably be determined, use the hospital's usual documentation-clarification process. - When AMC, location, and approach are reasonably determinable, proceed without unnecessary clarification. - Conventional/passive drainage is outside the scope of this AMC guide and remains subject to the hospital's usual coding practices.

4 Quick Examples

Scenario	AMC coding principle
2 mediastinal PleuraFlow devices, both Open	One mediastinal AMC code: 0W9C003
Right pleural + mediastinal AMC, both Open	Two AMC codes: 0W99003 + 0W9C003
Right + left pleural AMC drainage	Evaluate and code each pleural body part separately

SPECIAL / ATYPICAL SCENARIOS: For later Clearance Apparatus replacement or other atypical scenarios, use the Hospital Coding Guide and applicable ICD-10-PCS guidance; do not extend a special-scenario rule by analogy.

5 Claims Visibility, Payment & Resources

The FY 2027 AMC codes create distinct claims-level visibility for documented AMC procedures. They do not establish an AMC-specific MS-DRG payment change, automatically change the MS-DRG, guarantee additional reimbursement, or guarantee a future payment refinement.

CURRENT RESOURCES:

AMC Coding Education Resource Center
clearflow.com/education/amc-coding/

QUESTIONS:

amc-coding@clearflow.com

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