
Colorectal Laparoscopic Standards and Coding Protocols

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Contents

1	Context	3
2	Laparoscopic Standards.....	3
3	Coding Protocols	3
	Appendix 1 – Compliance Measure List of OPCS Codes for Colorectal and Laparoscopic Surgery.....	5
	Appendix 2 – Full List of OPCS Codes for Colorectal and Laparoscopic Surgery	7

1 Context

A prospective audit covering the period 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2014 was performed to determine the rate of laparoscopic colorectal surgery within the LCA and identify factors that would improve the laparoscopic surgery rate so that it meets and supersedes the average national rate. The rationale for undertaking such an audit was the poor laparoscopic surgery rates in LCA units reported in HES which is the nationally accepted reporting tool.

The audit identified that the mean rate within the LCA was higher than the national average. However there appears to be a variation between the various units and discrepancy between the data published by HES and that of the audit.

2 Laparoscopic Standards

The results from the October to December 2014 audit were discussed at the 17 March 2015 LCA colorectal clinical forum and the following standards were agreed. These standards are subject to future change in line with local national factors and influences.

- 1. For Primary Surgery for Right Hemicolectomy and Anterior Resection the laparoscopic rate should be at least 60%**
- 2. The conversion rate for these operations should be less than 20%**

2.1 Performance measure

There was collective agreement for all Trusts to achieve these standards within 1 year, and performance will be measured against HES data. Trusts should put in place a work programme to ensure compliance.

Compliance will be measured against but not limited to (subject to review) the OPCS codes for colorectal and laparoscopic surgery listed in Appendix 1.

3 Coding Protocols

It is important that the clinical coding is accurate to ensure the accuracy of laparoscopic rates captured through HES. The following protocols should be embedded:

1. The operation notes should state clearly in the title if the operation is done laparoscopically or open.
2. The OPCS codes found in Appendix 2 should be used next to the title to help the coders identify that the operation was done via a laparoscopic approach. Each operation, if performed laparoscopically, should have two codes inserted next to the title.
 - a. The first code is for the actual operation performed e.g. a right hemicolectomy or anterior resection etc. (Section A)
 - b. The second code is to identify if the operation is done laparoscopically or not. (Section B)
 - c. If the operation was started laparoscopically and converted to open this should be specified and coded as: Y71.4 "Failed minimal access approach converted to open".

Please print sections A and B of this document, laminate if possible, and keep them in theatres for you and your team to refer to when writing the op notes.

3. Regular meetings with coders will ensure that they understand how to identify and code laparoscopic procedures and that the laparoscopic rates are documented accurately as well as the conversion from laparoscopic to open.
4. Identify a clinical lead whose task it is to regularly monitor laparoscopic surgery within the unit and to receive regular reports from the coders; and if required to put in place training programmes to improve rates to meet the LCA standard.
5. Coding department should provide regular weekly reports to the laparoscopic clinical lead of the coding of the operation done that week. The lead must confirm that the coding was correct before the coders submit to HES.

Appendix 1 – Compliance Measure List of OPCS Codes for Colorectal and Laparoscopic Surgery

Colorectal Procedure Codes

Colorectal OPCS Code	Description
H061	Extended right hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis
H062	Extended right hemicolectomy and anastomosis of ileum to colon
H063	Extended right hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H064	Extended right hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H068	Other specified extended excision of right hemicolon
H071	Right hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of ileum to colon, Ileocaecal resection
H072	Right hemicolectomy and side to side anastomosis of ileum to transverse colon,
H073	Right hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H074	Right hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H078	Other specified other excision of right hemicolon
H079	Other excision of right hemicolon, unspecified; Right hemicolectomy NEC
H091	Left hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of colon to rectum
H092	Left hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of colon to colon
H093	Left hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H094	Left hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H095	Left hemicolectomy and exteriorisation of bowel NEC
H098	Excision of left hemicolon, Other specified 40
H099	Left hemicolectomy NEC, Excision of left hemicolon, Unspecified
H101	Sigmoid colectomy and end to end anastomosis of ileum to rectum
H102	Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis of colon to rectum
H103	Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis NEC

H104	Sigmoid colectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H105	Sigmoid colectomy and exteriorisation of bowel NEC
H108	Other specified excision of sigmoid colon
H109	Unspecified excision of sigmoid colon
H333	Anterior resection of rectum and anastomosis of colon to rectum using staples
H334	Anterior resection of rectum and anastomosis NEC
H335	Hartmann procedure, Rectosigmoidectomy and closure of rectal stump and exteriorisation of bowel
H336	Anterior resection of rectum and exteriorisation
H338	Anterior Resection of Rectum NEC
H339	Rectosigmoidectomy NEC, Excision of rectum, unspecified

Laparoscopic Codes

Laparoscopic OPSC code	Description Laparoscopic Codes
Y71.4	Failed minimal access approach converted to open
Y75.1	Laparoscopically assisted approach to abdominal cavity
Y75.2	Laparoscopic approach to abdominal cavity NEC
Y75.3	Robotic minimal access approach to abdominal cavity

Appendix 2 – Full List of OPCS Codes for Colorectal and Laparoscopic Surgery

Section A - Select OPCS code(s) from this list that apply

Colorectal OPCS Code	Description
H041	Proctocolectomy NEC, Panproctocolectomy and Ileostomy
H042	Panproctocolectomy and anastomosis of ileum to anus and creation of pouch HFQ
H043	Panproctocolectomy and anastomosis of ileum to anus NEC
H048	Other specified total excision of colon and rectum
H049	Panproctocolectomy NEC, Total excision of colon and rectum, unspecified-
H051	Total colectomy and anastomosis of ileum to rectum
H052	Total colectomy and ileostomy and creation of rectal fistula HFQ
H053	Total colectomy and ileostomy NEC
H058	Total excision of colon, other specified
H059	Total excision of colon, Unspecified
H061	Extended right hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis
H062	Extended right hemicolectomy and anastomosis of ileum to colon
H063	Extended right hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H064	Extended right hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H068	Other specified extended excision of right hemicolon
H069	Extended excision of Right hemicolon, unspecified, excision of Right colon and surrounding tissue
H071	Right hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of ileum to colon, Ileocaecal resection
H072	Right hemicolectomy and side to side anastomosis of ileum to transverse colon,
H073	Right hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H074	Right hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H078	Other specified other excision of right hemicolon
H079	Other excision of right hemicolon, unspecified; Right hemicolectomy NEC

Colorectal OPCS Code	Description
H081	Transverse colectomy and end to end anastomosis
H082	Transverse colectomy and anastomosis of ileum to colon
H083	Transverse colectomy and anastomosis NEC
H084	Transverse colectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H085	Transverse colectomy and exteriorisation of bowel NEC
H088	Other specified excision of transverse colon
H089	Excision of transverse colon, unspecified
H091	Left hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of colon to rectum
H092	Left hemicolectomy and end to end anastomosis of colon to colon
H093	Left hemicolectomy and anastomosis NEC
H094	Left hemicolectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H095	Left hemicolectomy and exteriorisation of bowel NEC
H098	Excision of left hemicolon, Other specified 40
H099	Left hemicolectmy NEC, Excision of left hemicolon, Unspecified
H101	Sigmoid colectomy and end to end anastomosis of ileum to rectum
H102	Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis of colon to rectum
H103	Sigmoid colectomy and anastomosis NEC
H104	Sigmoid colectomy and ileostomy HFQ
H105	Sigmoid colectomy and exteriorisation of bowel NEC
H108	Other specified excision of sigmoid colon
H109	Unspecified excision of sigmoid colon
H111	Colectomy and end to end anastomosis of colon to colon NEC
H112	Colectomy and side to side anastomosis of ileum to colon NEC
H113	Colectomy and anastomosis NEC
H114	Colectomy and ileostomy NEC
H115	Colectomy and exteriorisation of bowel

Colorectal OPCS Code	Description
H118	Other excision of colon, other specified
H119	Hemicolectomy NEC; Colectomy NEC, Other excision of colon, unspecified;
H291	Subtotal excision of colon and rectum and creation of colonic pouch and anastomosis of colon to anus
H292	Subtotal excision of colon and rectum and creation of colonic pouch NEC
H293	Subtotal excision of colon and creation of colonic pouch and anastomosis of colon to rectum
H294	Subtotal excision of colon and creation of colonic pouch NEC
H298	Subtotal excision of colon, Other specified
H299	Subtotal excision of colon, Unspecified
H331	Abdominoperineal excision of rectum and end colostomy; APR; SCAPER
H332	Proctectomy and anastomosis of colon to anus
H333	Anterior resection of rectum and anastomosis of colon to rectum using staples

Section B - Select one OPCS code from this list

Colorectal OPSC code	Description
Y71.4	Failed minimal access approach converted to open
Y75.1	Laparoscopically assisted approach to abdominal cavity
Y75.2	Laparoscopic approach to abdominal cavity NEC
Y75.3	Robotic minimal access approach to abdominal cavity
Y75.4	Hand assisted minimal access approach to abdominal cavity
Y75.5	Laparoscopic ultrasonic approach to abdominal cavity
Y75.8	Other specified minimal access to abdominal cavity
Y75.9	Unspecified minimal access to abdominal cavity