

Hyperemesis Gravidarum

**Definition/
cut-off value**

Severe nausea and vomiting to the extent that the pregnant woman becomes dehydrated and acidotic. Presence of Hyperemesis Gravidarum diagnosed by physician as self reported by applicant/participant/caregiver, or as reported or documented by a physician, or someone working under physician's orders.

**Participant
category and
priority level**
Category
Priority

Pregnant Women

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Justification

Nausea and vomiting are common early in gestation; 50% or more of normal pregnant women experience some vomiting. However, pregnant women with severe vomiting during pregnancy are at risk of weight loss, dehydration, and metabolic imbalances. Nutrition risk is based on chronic conditions, not single episodes.

**Clarifications/
Guidelines**

Before assigning this risk code, be sure the medical condition is documented on the health history form.

Self-reporting of a diagnosis by a medical professional should not be confused with self-diagnosis, where a person simply claims to have or to have had a medical condition without any reference to professional diagnosis. A self-reported medical diagnosis (“My doctor says that I have/my son or daughter has...”) should prompt the CA to validate the presence of the condition by asking more pointed questions related to that diagnosis.

References

Institute of Medicine: WIC Nutrition Risk Criteria: A Scientific Assessment; 1996; pp. 166-168.
