Descriptive Data Element Name: **Principal Procedure Code**

XSD Data Type: xs: string

Attribute Name: princ_proc

Accepts Null values: Yes

Required in XSD: No

Minimum Constraint: 3

Maximum Constraint: 7

Definition: The ICD-10-PCS code that identifies the principal procedure performed during the inpatient hospital stay covered by this discharge data record. The principal procedure is one that is performed for definitive treatment rather than for diagnostic or exploratory purposes, or is necessary as a result of complications. The principal procedure is that procedure most related to the principal diagnosis.

Comments: The coding method used should be ICD-10-PCS. Entries must include all digits without a decimal.

Edit: Principal Procedure field if provided must be:

- Present if other procedures are present
- Valid
- Consistent with patient's sex and age
- Consistent with a valid MSDRG

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