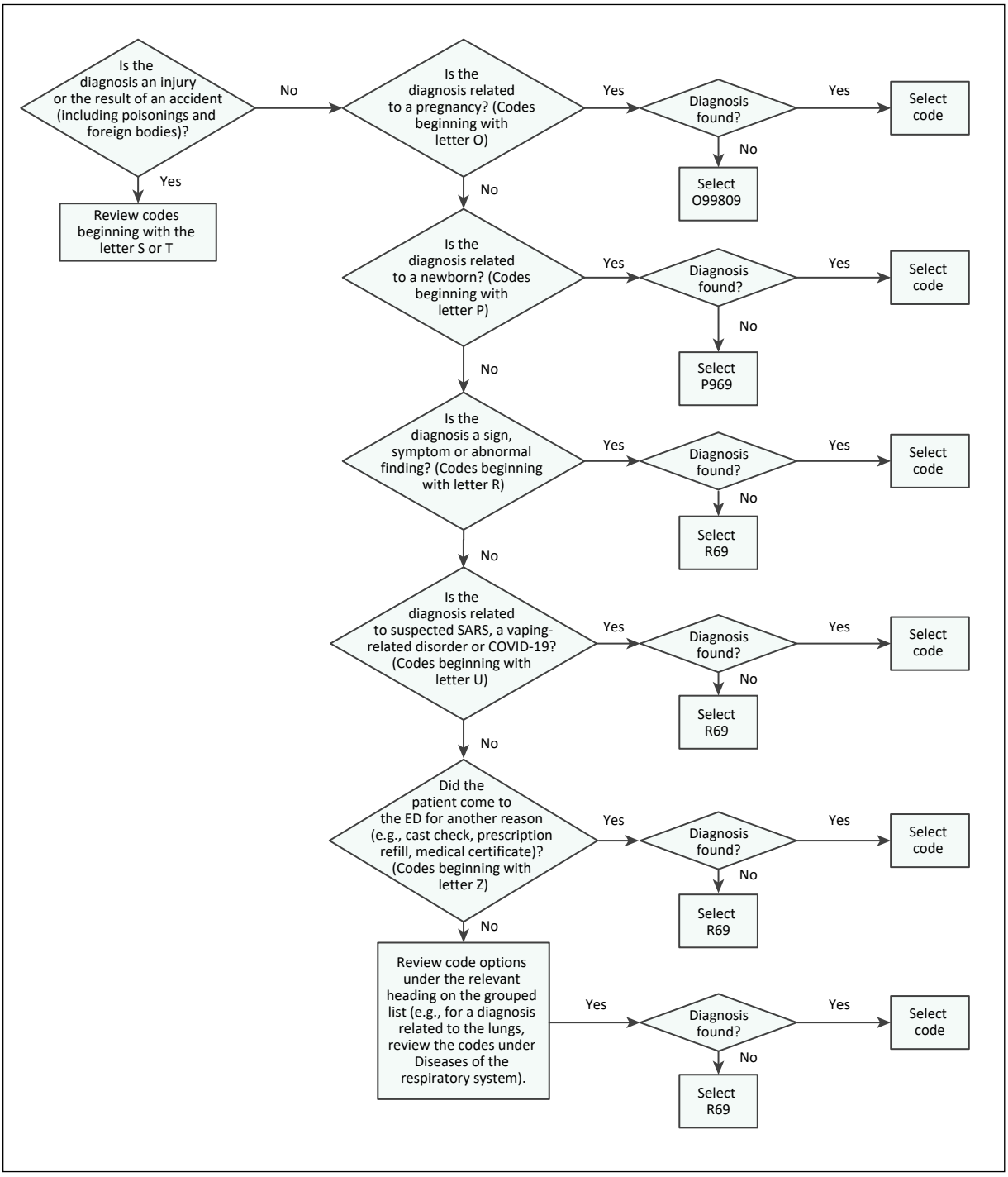
Canadian Emergency Department Diagnosis Shortlist (CED-DxS) Code Selection Process



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Text alternative

This is the process for selecting an emergency department (ED) discharge diagnosis from the Canadian Emergency Department Diagnosis Shortlist (CED-DxS).

Is the diagnosis an injury or the result of an accident (including poisonings and foreign bodies)?

If yes, review the codes beginning with the letter S or T.

If the diagnosis is not an injury or the result of an accident, is the diagnosis related to a pregnancy? (Codes beginning with the letter O.) If the diagnosis is related to a pregnancy and the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the diagnosis is related to a pregnancy but the diagnosis is not found, select O99809.

If the diagnosis is not related to a pregnancy, is the diagnosis related to a newborn? (Codes beginning with the letter P.) If the diagnosis is related to a newborn and the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the diagnosis is related to a newborn but the diagnosis is not found, select P969.

If the diagnosis is not related to a newborn, is the diagnosis a sign, symptom or abnormal finding? (Codes beginning with the letter R.) If the diagnosis is a sign, symptom or abnormal finding and the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the diagnosis is a sign, symptom or abnormal finding but the diagnosis is not found, select R69.

If the diagnosis is not a sign, symptom or abnormal finding, is the diagnosis related to suspected SARS, a vaping-related disorder or COVID-19? (Codes beginning with the letter U.) If the diagnosis is related to suspected SARS, a vaping-related disorder or COVID-19 and the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the diagnosis is related to suspected SARS, a vaping-related disorder or COVID-19 but the diagnosis is not found, select R69.

If the diagnosis is not related to suspected SARS, a vaping-related disorder or COVID-19, did the patient come to the ED for another reason (e.g., cast check, prescription refill, medical certificate)? (Codes beginning with the letter Z.) If the patient came to the ED for another reason and the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the patient came to the ED for another reason but the diagnosis is not found, select R69.

If the patient did not come to the ED for another reason, review the code options under the relevant heading on the grouped list (e.g., for a diagnosis related to the lungs, review the codes under Diseases of the respiratory system). If the diagnosis is found, select the code. If the diagnosis is not found, select R69.

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