



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Western Australian Coding Rule

0318/74 Infected bee or insect sting

Q.

What is the correct way to code an infected bee sting? There are ACS for classifying infected superficial injuries or burns (i.e. assign T79.3) but there are no guidelines for classifying infected bee (or other insect) stings. Example: Patient admitted with knee cellulitis following a bee sting one week earlier. Documented PD is knee cellulitis.

A.

Although there are no ACS guidelines for classifying infected bee (or other insect) stings, we can still follow the Index pathway: 'Infection, infected → post traumatic NEC' to assign T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*.

For an infected bee sting, assign:

1. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods*
2. T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*
3. Cellulitis or abscess code (if documented, to further specify the type of infection)
4. Organism 'B' code (if known, to further specify the type of infection)
5. X23.3- *Contact with bees*
6. Place of occurrence code
7. Activity code

Presence of cellulitis should be coded separately in accordance with ACS 1916 *Superficial and soft tissue injuries*, with sequencing in accordance with ACS 0001 and 0002.

In the example knee cellulitis is documented as the principal diagnosis, so L03.13 *Cellulitis of lower limb* should be sequenced first:

1. L03.13 *Cellulitis of lower limb*
2. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods*
3. T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*
4. Organism 'B' code
5. X23.3- *Contact with bees*
6. Place of occurrence
7. Activity code.

DECISION

For an infected bee sting assign:

- 1. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods***

2. **T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC***
3. **Cellulitis or abscess code (if present), to further specify the type of infection**
4. **Any organism ('B' code), to further specify the type of infection**
5. **X23.3- *Contact with bees***
6. **Place of occurrence code**
7. **Activity code**

Sequencing of specific infections such as cellulitis or abscess should be in accordance with ACS 0001 and 0002.

This WA Coding Rule 0318/74 *Infected bee or insect sting* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0716/02 *Infected bee or insect sting*.

This advice has a minor modification to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition.

[Effective 1 July 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10th Ed.]



Western Australian Coding Rule

0716/02 Infected bee or insect sting

Q.

What is the correct way to code an infected bee sting? There are ACS for classifying infected superficial injuries or burns (i.e. assign T79.3) but there are no guidelines for classifying infected bee (or other insect) stings. Example: Patient admitted with knee cellulitis following a bee sting one week earlier. Documented PD is knee cellulitis.

A.

Although there are no ACS guidelines for classifying infected bee (or other insect) stings, we can still follow the Index pathway: 'Infection, infected → post traumatic-NEC' to assign T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*.

For an infected bee sting, assign:

1. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods*
2. T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*
3. Cellulitis or abscess code (if documented, to further specify the type of infection)
4. Organism 'B' code (if known, to further specify the type of infection)
5. X23.3- *Contact with bees*
6. Place of occurrence code
7. Activity code

For non-specific documentation such as 'infected bee sting' or 'infected insect sting' only, seek clinician clarification to identify if specific infection diagnoses such as cellulitis or abscess apply. Cellulitis should be coded separately with sequencing as per ACS 0001 and 0002, in accordance Coding Rules: *Cellulitis with recent injury* (June 2015) and *Cellulitis of an infected blister* (March 2015).

In the example, knee cellulitis is documented as the principal diagnosis, so L03.13 *Cellulitis of lower limb* should be sequenced first:

1. L03.13 *Cellulitis of lower limb*
2. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods*
3. T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC*
4. Organism 'B' code
5. X23.3- *Contact with bees*
6. Place of occurrence
7. Activity code.

DECISION

For an infected bee sting assign:

- 1. T63.4 *Venom of other arthropods***
- 2. T79.3 *Post traumatic wound infection, NEC***
- 3. Cellulitis or abscess code (if present), to further specify the type of infection**
- 4. Any organism ('B' code), to further specify the type of infection**
- 5. X23.3- *Contact with bees***
- 6. Place of occurrence code**
- 7. Activity code**

Sequencing of specific infections such as cellulitis or abscess should be in accordance with ACS 0001 and 0002.

[Effective 20 July 2016, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]