



Western Australian Coding Rule

0719/49 Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)

Q.

Alphabetic index:

Infection

- respiratory (tract)

-- upper

--- viral NEC = J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified*.

Does B97.8 *Other viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters* need to be assigned to provide further specificity, even though 'viral' is included in the alphabetic index pathway?

A.

The assignment of B97.8 with URTI (J06.9) is supported by the Tabular note at B95-B97 which instructs: "A code from these categories **must be assigned if it provides more specificity** about the infectious agent. Do not assign a code from these categories if the same agent has been identified in the infection code (e.g. streptococcal sepsis in A40.-)".

DECISION

Viral URTI should be coded:

J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified*

B97.8 *Other viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters*

This WA Coding Rule 0719/49 *Viral upper respiratory tract infection* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0617/02 *Viral upper respiratory tract infection*.

This advice has been modified to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Eleventh Edition.

[Effective 01 July 2019, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 11th Ed.]



Western Australian Coding Rule

0617/02 Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)

Q.

Alphabetic index:

Infection

- respiratory (tract)

-- upper

--- viral NEC = J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified.*

Does B97.8 *Other viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters* need to be assigned to provide further specificity, even though 'viral' is included in the alphabetic index pathway?

A.

The assignment of B97.8 with URTI (J06.9) is supported by the following:

- ACS 0002 *Additional diagnoses, Multiple Coding* section, which states that multiple coding is required for local infections to identify the organism
- The Tabular note at B95-B97 states: "A code from these categories **must be assigned if it provides more specificity** about the infectious agent. Do not assign a code from these categories if the same agent has been identified in the infection code (e.g. streptococcal sepsis in A40.-)".

DECISION

Viral URTI should be coded:

J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified*

B97.8 *Other viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters*

[Effective 07 June 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]