



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

# Western Australian Coding Rule

## **0722/17 Decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach**

In Twelfth Edition major amendments have been made to ACHI for spinal interventions, including new codes and Indexing for decompression. Q2958 *Decompressive laminectomy of thoracic and lumbar spine by posterior approach* is retired.



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0417/09 Decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach

WA Coding Rule 1209/05 *Decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach* is superseded by ACCD Coding Rule ***Decompressive laminectomy of thoracic and lumbar spine by posterior approach*** (Ref No: Q2958) effective 1 April 2017; (log in to view on the [ACCD CLIP portal](#)).

### DECISION

**WA Coding Rule 1209/05 *Decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach* is retired.**

[Effective 01 April 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9<sup>th</sup> Ed.]

RETIRED



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 1209/05 Decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach

### Q.

What is the correct code for T11/12 decompressive laminectomy for spinal cord compression? The surgeon took a posterior approach; however there doesn't seem to be a code that matches this. All available codes seem to relate to an anterior approach. The closest code seems to be 90024-00 - *Decompression of lumbar spinal canal*.

### A.

This procedure is coded to decompression - spinal cord -- thoracic ---via thoracotomy 40348-00 [47] (this code is not specified as being anterior or posterior, only thoracic in its approach).

### DECISION

**For decompression thoracic spinal cord posterior approach, assign:**

**40348-00 [47] *Decompression of thoracic spinal cord via thoracotomy***

[Effective 4 December 2009, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.]