



Western Australian Coding Rule

0318/35 Mucosal pressure injuries

In ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition, ACS 1221 *Pressure injury* provides guidelines for code assignment of mucosal pressure injuries. WA Coding Rule 0412/01 *Mucosal pressure injuries* is therefore retired.

DECISION

WA Coding Rule 0412/01 *Mucosal pressure injuries* is retired.

[Effective 01 Jul 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10th Ed.]



Western Australian Coding Rule

0412/01 Mucosal pressure ulcers

Q.

What is the most appropriate code to use for mucosal pressure ulcers due to nasogastric tubes for example, as they are not considered appropriate for staging? Should we use L89.9?

A.

Mucous membrane is the moist lining of body cavities that communicate with the exterior. These tissues line the tongue, gastrointestinal (GI) tract, nasal passages, urinary tract and vaginal canal. Pressure applied to this tissue can render it ischemic and lead to ulceration.

Mucosal tissues are especially vulnerable to pressure from medical devices, such as oxygen tubing, endotracheal tubes, bite blocks, orogastric and nasogastric tubes, urinary catheters and faecal containment devices.

Mucosal Pressure Ulcers are pressure ulcers found on mucous membranes with a history of a medical device in use at the location of the ulcer.

ACS 1221 defines a decubitus ulcer/pressure area as “an inflammation, sore or ulcer of the skin over a bony prominence. It results from ischaemic hypoxia of the tissues due to pressure. These ulcers can be found most frequently on the sacrum, elbows, heels, outer ankles, inner knees, hips, shoulder blades and ear rims of immobilised patients”.

DECISION

It is difficult to make a ruling when no specific case has been queried as documentation and individual scenarios will vary. Once a specific example of this documentation has been identified it should be queried with the WA Coding Committee.

[Effective 04 May 2012, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]