



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0725/45 Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)

### Q.

Does B97.89 *Viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters, NEC* need to be assigned to provide further specificity, even though 'viral' is included in this Alphabetic Index pathway?

### Infection

- respiratory (tract)
- - upper
- - - viral NEC J06.9

### A.

The assignment of B97.89 with J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified* is supported by the Tabular List *Instructional* note at block B95-B97 which states: Assign a code from these categories if it provides specificity about the infectious agent.

### DECISION

**Viral URTI should be coded:**

**J06.9 *Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified***

**B97.89 *Viral agents as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters, NEC***

**This WA Coding Rule 0725/45 *Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0719/49 *Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)*.**

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

Effective 1 July 2025, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 13<sup>th</sup> Ed.

As per the Patient Activity Data Policy (MP 0164/21) Western Australian Coding Rules must be followed.



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0719/49      Viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)

### Q.

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?

### Infection

- respiratory (tract)
- - upper
- - - viral NEC J06.9

### 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.

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?

### Infection

- respiratory (tract)
- - upper
- - - viral NEC J06.9

### A.

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

- 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 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***

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