



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0316/01 External cause code for cultural circumcision

**Q.**  
What is the correct external cause code for a complication of male tribal circumcision?

**A.**  
Usually, the type of instrument used to perform the tribal circumcision will not be documented. In these cases it is appropriate to assign W26.9 Contact with unspecified sharp object(s) by following the Index pathway:  
Contact  
- with  
- - sharp object (cutting or piercing instrument) NEC W26.9

In the event that that type of instrument is documented, a more specific code may be assigned. Please note that this decision replaces an earlier WACCAG decision from December 2014 as new codes were created in 9th edition.

### **DECISION**

**The correct external cause code for complication of male tribal circumcision is W26.9 *Contact with unspecified sharp object(s)*.**

[Effective 30 Mar 2016, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9<sup>th</sup> Ed.]



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 1214/05 Tribal circumcision

### Q.

What is the correct external cause code for a complication of male tribal circumcision?

### A.

Usually, the type of instrument used to perform the tribal circumcision will not be documented. In these cases it is appropriate to assign W45.9 *Foreign body or object entering through skin* by following the Index pathway:

Contact

- with

- - sharp object (cutting or piercing instrument) NEC W45.9

In the event that the type of instrument is documented, a more specific code may be assigned.

Please note that this decision replaces an earlier CCWA decision from June 2010 as the Alphabetical Index was updated in 8<sup>th</sup> edition.

### DECISION

**The correct external cause code for complication of male tribal circumcision is W45.9 *Foreign body or object entering through skin*.**

[Effective 05 Dec 2014, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8<sup>th</sup> Ed.]



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0610/05 Complication of tribal circumcision

### Q.

What is the correct external cause code to for a complication of male tribal circumcision?

### A.

This issue was addressed in the ICD-9-CM Coding Standards, but has not been addressed since. The advice at that time was to use external cause code of assault by cutting and piercing instrument.

However, we have been advised that local investigation confirmed the circumcisions are usually done with consent; hence the external cause code of assault is inappropriate. The most appropriate code would be Contact, with, sharp object NEC = *W49 Exposure to other and unspecified inanimate mechanical forces*.

### DECISION

**Assign *W49 Exposure to other and unspecified inanimate mechanical forces*.**

[Effective 16 Jun 2010, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.]