



Western Australian Coding Rule

0318/52 Ptosis of eyebrow

ACCD Coding Rule ***Ptosis of eyebrow*** (Ref No: Q3038) was retired on 30 June 2017. In ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition (effective 1 July 2017) an Alphabetic Index entry was created for Ptosis, eyebrow.



Western Australian Coding Rule

0316/11 Ptosis of eyebrow

WA Coding Rule 1111/09 *Fat graft with spinal surgery* is superseded by ACCD Coding Rule **Ptosis of eyebrow** (Ref No: Q3038) effective 1 April 2016; (log in to view on the [ACCD CLIP portal](#)).

DECISION

WA Coding Rule 0815/05 *Ptosis of the eyebrow* is retired.

[Effective 1 Apr 2016, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]



Western Australian Coding Rule

0815/05 Ptosis of the eyebrow

Q.

Which code should be assigned for ptosis of the eyebrow? The default code is H02.4 *Ptosis of the eyelid*, however assigning this code as a PD with a PP of brow lift gives a DRG of 801C.

A.

Brow ptosis refers to the sagging of one or both eyebrows. The condition is a natural consequence of aging and most people over the age of 65 develop some degree of brow ptosis as their facial skin and muscles lose elasticity. The facial and periorbital soft tissues involute with age. Usually the temporal third of the brow sag first as these soft tissues descend.

A younger person may also experience a form of brow ptosis as a complication of Bell's palsy, muscular dystrophy or another disorder that affects nerves and muscles in the face.

Simple elective surgery is the treatment of choice in most age-related cases, while additional surgical or medical treatments may be needed if drooping eyebrows are the result of an underlying disorder.

Most cases of age-related ptosis are bilateral, meaning that drooping affects both eyebrows. One brow may sag slightly more than the other, however, causing an asymmetric appearance. There are usually no problems associated with mild brow droop besides aesthetics. As the eyebrows continue to sag, they can begin to pull down the upper eyelids and disrupt vision. Many people complain of difficulties reading, driving and making consistent eye contact during conversation.

There is no Index entry for ptosis of the eyebrow in ICD-10-AM. The default code for 'ptosis' in the Index is H02.4 *Ptosis of eyelid*. Clinical advice indicates that the best Index pathway for brow ptosis is:

Lax, laxity

- skin

L98.7 *Excessive and redundant skin and subcutaneous tissue*

DECISION

Ptosis of the brow should be coded to L98.7 *Excessive and redundant skin and subcutaneous tissue*. This query will be forwarded on to the ACCD.

[Effective 05 Aug 2015, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]