



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

Western Australian Coding Rule

0620/06 Reflux symptoms

WA Coding Rule 0413/07 *Reflux symptoms* is superseded by ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Coding Rule ***Reflux associated with digestive system*** (Ref No: Q3545) effective 1 July 2020; (log in to view on the [IHPA Australian Classification Exchange](#)).



Western Australian Coding Rule

0413/07 Reflux symptoms

Q.

What is the correct code to assign for reflux symptoms? Should they be coded to R19.89 Other specified symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen or K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis*?

A.

When coding reflux symptoms, the coder should first check that no other condition is documented which the symptoms can be attributed to and the symptoms are not further specified as heartburn, dyspepsia, etc.

If no other symptoms or conditions are documented, reflux symptoms should be assigned to K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis* by looking up reflux, gastro-oesophageal in the Alphabetic Index. R19.89 *Other specified symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen* should not be assigned for documentation of reflux symptoms.

DECISION

Reflux symptoms, not further specified, should be coded to K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis*.

This WA Coding Rule 0318/70 *Reflux symptoms* supersedes WA Coding Rule 0413/07 *Reflux symptoms*.

This advice has been modified to correspond with an update in ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition.

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



Western Australian Coding Rule

0413/07 Reflux symptoms

Q.

What is the correct code to assign for reflux symptoms? Should they be coded to R19.8 *Other specified symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen* or K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis*?

A.

When coding reflux symptoms, the coder should first check that no other condition is documented which the symptoms can be attributed to and the symptoms are not further specified as heartburn, dyspepsia, etc.

If no other symptoms or conditions are documented, reflux symptoms should be assigned to K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis* by looking up reflux, gastro-oesophageal in the Alphabetic Index. R19.8 *Other specified symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen* should not be assigned for documentation of reflux symptoms.

DECISION

Reflux symptoms, not further specified, should be coded to K21.9 *Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease without oesophagitis*.

[Effective 19 Apr 2013, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]