

Western Australian Coding Rule

0722/08 Drug seeking behaviour

IHPA Coding Rule *Drug seeking behaviour* (Ref No: Q3315) was retired on 30 June 2022.

In 12th Edition, an ICD-10-AM Alphabetic Index entry has been created for Behaviour, drug seeking.

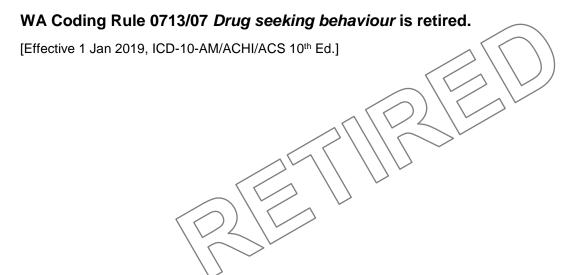


Western Australian Coding Rule

1218/07 Drug seeking behaviour

WA Coding Rule 0713/07 *Drug seeking behaviour* is superseded by ACCD Coding Rule *Drug seeking behaviour* (Ref No: Q3315) effective 1 January 2019; (log in to view on the <u>ACCD CLIP portal</u>).

DECISION





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0713/07 Drug seeking behaviour

Q.

A patient was admitted to the Emergency Department with a principal diagnosis of: Drug seeking behaviour. He claimed to be bipolar and that he needed strong medication for back pain. A psychiatric evaluation concluded that he was exhibiting drug seeking behaviour.

The patient was also described as having a history of amphetamine and Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) abuse. The patient requested olanzapine, valium and oxazepam. How should we code this?

A.

WACCAG agrees with the advice given in the 3rd edition database to code drug seeking behaviour to R46.8 Other symptoms and signs involving appearance and behaviour. However we would like to emphasise that drug seeking behaviour is often a symptom of a drug use disorder and should be coded as such if such a disorder is documented (i.e. harmful use, dependence, withdrawal). We would also question the validity of admitting a patient specifically for drug seeking behaviour without documentation of a drug use disorder.

DECISION

Drug seeking behaviour should be coded to R46.8 Other symptoms and signs involving appearance and behaviour.

[Effective 10 Jul 2013, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]