Western Australian Coding Rule

0218/01 ‘Findings’ in same-day endoscopy

Q.
Is WA Coding Rule 0115/01 ‘Findings’ on same-day endoscopy still current following the implementation of ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Tenth Edition?

A.

To determine whether findings meet the criteria for coding in a same-day diagnostic endoscopy, apply ACS 0051 Same-day endoscopy - diagnostic which instructs:

- Where principal/additional diagnoses are clearly documented:
  - ACS 0051 does not apply. When a discharge summary has been completed and principal and additional diagnoses are documented, follow ACS 0001 Principal diagnosis and ACS 0002 Additional diagnoses.
- Where principal/additional diagnoses are not clearly documented:
  - Assign codes for all other findings as additional diagnoses (note these findings do not need to meet the criteria in ACS 0002).

Additionally:

- The highlighted instruction of WA Coding Rule 0115/01 ‘Findings’ on same day endoscopy is still current:
  
  ‘Findings’ as referred to in ACS 0046 Diagnosis selection for same-day endoscopy should be taken to include any diagnoses recorded on the endoscopy report as well as any diagnoses recorded in the conclusion of the histopathology report.

- As per ACCD Coding Rule Selection of morphology codes from pathology reports (April 2017): “The entire pathology report must be used to abstract information for the purposes of clinical coding…”

Note: findings in same-day surveillance endoscopies do need to meet ACS 0002 in order to be coded – see ACS 0052 Same-day endoscopy – Surveillance.

DECISION

To determine whether findings meet criteria for coding in same-day diagnostic endoscopy, follow ACS 0051 Same-day endoscopy – diagnostic and assign codes for all other findings as additional diagnoses (note these findings do not need to meet the criteria in ACS 0002 Additional diagnoses).
Findings in same-day surveillance endoscopies do need to meet ACS 0002 in order to be coded – see ACS 0052 *Same-day endoscopy – Surveillance*.

‘Findings’ should be taken to include any diagnoses recorded on the endoscopy report as well as any diagnoses recorded on the histopathology report.

This WA Coding Rule 0218/01 ‘Findings’ on same-day endoscopy supersedes WA Coding Rule 0115/01 *Findings* on same-day endoscopy.

[Effective 1 Mar 2018, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10th Ed.]
Western Australian Coding Rule

0115/01 ‘Findings’ on same-day endoscopy

Q.
What is considered a ‘finding’ during a same-day endoscopy? Does this only refer to diagnoses recorded on the endoscopy report or does it include diagnoses recorded in the conclusion of the pathology report? e.g. patient admitted for gastroscopy for abdominal pain. No abnormalities recorded on the gastroscopy report, however random stomach biopsies taken and conclusion of histopathology report states ‘chronic gastritis’. Should the chronic gastritis be coded?

A.
‘Findings’ as referred to in ACS 0046 Diagnosis selection for same-day endoscopy should be taken to include any diagnoses recorded on the endoscopy report as well as any diagnoses recorded in the conclusion of the histopathology report.

The instructions in ACS 0010 General abstraction guidelines – Test Results should not be followed, as this standard is overridden by ACS 0046 for coding of same-day endoscopies.

For the stated example, the coding should be as follows:

R10.4 Other and unspecified abdominal pain
K29.50 Chronic gastritis, unspecified, without mention of haemorrhage

DECISION

‘Findings’ as referred to in ACS 0046 Diagnosis selection for same-day endoscopy should be taken to include any diagnoses recorded on the endoscopy report as well as any diagnoses recorded in the conclusion of the histopathology report.

[Effective 28 Jan 2015, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9th Ed.]