Western Australian Coding Rule

0318/71 Observation following fall in hospital
WA Coding Rule 0211/01 Observation following fall in hospital is retired as the data quality edit in question is no longer in use.

DECISION
WA Coding Rule 0211/01 Observation following fall in hospital is retired.
[Effective 01 July 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10th Ed.]
WA Coding Rules are a requirement of the Clinical Coding Policy MP0056/17

Western Australian Coding Rule

0211/01 Observation following fall in hospital

Q. What is the correct code to assign for fall not resulting in injury in the following scenarios 1 and 2? When we assign Z04.3 Examination and observation following accident with COF 1 we receive an edit about the COF.

Scenario 1
Patient felt dizzy in toilet, fell and knocked head on wall. Nurse asked doctor to see patient - no LOC, no injuries identified. Doctor: “Plan - patient to get up slowly, FBC”.

Scenario 2
During newborn admission, baby fell out of bed (co-sleeping with mum who was in deep sleep). Baby stunned for some time. Quiet but vitals stable. Doctor: “No signs of external injury head or extremities. Plan: Obs at every feed. Watch for lethargy, poor feeding or increased irritability. Consider head USS if clinical signs warrant. Review by Consultant tomorrow”. Mother requested discharge. Baby subsequently transferred to SCN from ward for observation and neuro obs pending maternal psychiatric review, as there had been some indication of careless handling of baby by mother prior to fall.

A. Codes from block Z04 Examination and observation for other reasons are generally intended for use as principal diagnosis for admission to hospital for observation following accident without a diagnosis of injury. Therefore edits are in place to identify COF code 1 for Z04.x and the coder will need to confirm that Z04.x is appropriate.

Scenario 1
The fall itself does not meet criteria for coding as per ACS 0002 Additional diagnoses.

Scenario 2
The fall meets criteria for coding as per ACS 0002 Additional diagnoses. Assign:
Z04.3 Observation following other accident COF 1
W06.1 Fall involving special purpose bed COF 1
Y92.24 Health Service Area, this facility COF 1
U73.8 Other specified activity COF 1

DECISION
Codes from block Z04 Examination and observation for other reasons are generally intended for use as principal diagnosis for admission to hospital for observation following accident without a diagnosis of injury. Therefore edits are in place to identify Z04.- with COF 1 and the coder will need to confirm that Z04.x is appropriate.

[Effective 1 February 2011, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th Ed.]