Western Australian Coding Rule

0414/03  Osteitis pubis

Q.
How should osteitis pubis be coded? The default code for osteitis in the index leads to a code for osteomyelitis, which does not seem right.

A.
Following coding conventions, the lead term is ‘Osteitis’. There is no entry for ‘pubis’ so the default code should be assigned: M86.9-. As the 5th character is not specified in the index, the coder must select the correct 5th character from the Tabular. The correct code to assign is M86.95 Unspecified osteomyelitis, pelvic region and thigh.

Even though osteomyelitis and osteitis are different diseases, coders should follow indexing conventions to arrive at the correct code.

DECISION
Osteitis pubis should be coded to M86.95 Unspecified osteomyelitis, pelvic region and thigh by following the Index entry for ‘osteitis’ and selecting a 5th character of 5 for pelvic region and thigh.

[Effective 16 April 2014, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]