Western Australian Coding Rule

0514/04  Attempted hanging with no injury

Q. What is the correct coding when a patient is admitted for observation following an attempted hanging with no injury?

A. A patient may be admitted for observation following a self-harm attempt or may require extra observation after attempting self-harm while an inpatient. If no injury is diagnosed but the event meets the criteria in ACS 0001 Principal diagnosis or ACS 0002 Additional diagnoses, a code should be assigned.

The correct code to assign for an attempted hanging with no injury is Z03.8 Observation for other suspected diseases and conditions. There are a number of index pathways that lead to this code, including:

Observation
- suicide attempt, alleged NEC

Self-harm
- observation following (alleged) attempt

Suicide
- observation following alleged attempt

DECISION
The correct code to assign for an attempted hanging with no injury is Z03.8 Observation for other suspected diseases and conditions, followed by the relevant external cause codes.  

[Effective 28 May 2014, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]