Western Australian Coding Rule

0615/05 Erosive oesophagitis

Q.
Which code should be assigned for erosive oesophagitis? We have previously been assigning K21.0 Gastro-intestinal reflux disease with oesophagitis. Is this correct?

A.
Erosive oesophagitis may be due to gastro-oesophageal reflux. However, it may also be due to a number of other causes such as chemicals or trauma. It cannot be assumed that all cases of erosive oesophagitis are due to GORD.

Erosive oesophagitis should be coded to K20 Oesophagitis by looking up the lead term of 'oesophagitis' in the Index. There is no essential modifier for 'erosive'; therefore the default code of K20 must be assigned.

DECISION
Erosive oesophagitis should be coded to K20 Oesophagitis by looking up the lead term of 'oesophagitis' in the Index.

[Effective 24 Jun 2015, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 8th Ed.]