



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## **0719/25 High body mass index (BMI)**

ACCD Coding Rule *Tenth Edition FAQs Part 1: Obesity and BMI* (Ref No: TN1248) was retired on 30 June 2019.

Coders should be guided by the ICD-10-AM Alphabetic Index and ACS 0010 *Clinical documentation and general abstraction guidelines*.



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0318/09 High body mass index (BMI)

WA Coding Rule 0514/03 *High body mass index (BMI)* is superseded by ACCD Coding Rule *Tenth Edition FAQs Part 1: Obesity and BMI* (Ref No: TN1248) effective 1 October 2017; (log in to view on the [ACCD CLIP portal](#)).

### DECISION

**WA Coding Rule 0514/03 *High body mass index (BMI)* is retired.**

[Effective 01 October 2017, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 10<sup>th</sup> Ed.]



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0514/03 High body mass index (BMI)

**Q.**

What code should be assigned for documentation of 'high BMI' or '↑ BMI'?

**A.**

Body mass index (BMI) is recognised as having some limitations. It can be influenced by age, gender and ethnicity. A BMI measurement also may overestimate body fat in those with a muscular build and may underestimate body fat in the elderly and those who have lost muscle. An individual's BMI should be interpreted by their clinician in conjunction with other clinical observations.

Coders should not interpret documentation of 'high BMI' or '↑ BMI'. The treating clinician should be consulted and asked to document a diagnosis such as overweight, obesity, morbid obesity etc.

### **DECISION**

**Coders should not interpret documentation of 'high BMI' or '↑ BMI'. The treating clinician should be consulted and asked to document a diagnosis such as overweight, obesity, morbid obesity etc.**

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