

Z75.6 *Transfer for suspected condition* – is sequencing this code important?

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Diagnosis code Z75.6 *Transfer for suspected condition* is used as a 'flag' to identify patients transferred to another facility with a suspected condition.

The assignment of this diagnosis code can be extremely useful when looking the most frequent conditions requiring a patient to be transferred, identifying the types of procedures required by the patient prior to transport – or that are needing to be done in order to safely transfer the patient.

Australian Coding Standard 0012 Suspected Conditions notes that this code is to be sequenced directly after the diagnosis code(s) to which it relates.



What does the data in the Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection (QHAPDC) tell us?

In 2017/2018, diagnosis code Z75.6 *Transfer for suspected condition* was assigned in 4,961 episodes of care.

Some real examples of unusual sequencing of Z75.6 *Transfer for suspected condition* seen in QHAPDC data:

| | | |
|----|-------------|---|
| PD | K810 | Acute cholecystitis |
| OD | Z8643 | Personal history of tobacco use disorder |
| OD | Z756 | Transfer for suspected condition |
| PD | N459 | Orchitis, epididymitis and epididymo-orchitis without abscess |
| OD | E119 | Type 2 diabetes mellitus without complication |
| OD | Z756 | Transfer for suspected condition |
| PD | S7300 | Dislocation of hip, unspecified |

| | | |
|----|-------------|--|
| EX | X50 | Overexertion and strenuous or repetitive movements |
| EX | Y9205 | Place of occurrence, home bedroom |
| EX | U739 | Unspecified activity |
| OD | Z9664 | Presence of hip implant |
| OD | Z756 | Transfer for suspected condition |
| PR | 4704800 | Closed reduction of dislocation of hip |
| PR | 9251599 | Sedation, ASA 99 |

As can be seen in the above examples, the code sequenced directly before *Z75.6 Transfer for suspected condition* would most likely not have been the reason for transfer.

The correct sequencing of *Z75.6 Transfer for suspected condition* is essential - otherwise the data loses its value and quality.