



# Western Australian Coding Rule

## 0716/06 Gluing of gastric varices

### Q.

What is the correct code for gluing of gastric varices? Examples of adhesives used include Histoacryl and cyanoacrylate.

### A.

Definitive treatment of gastric varices requires either the endoscopic obliteration of varices or the correction of underlying portal hypertension.

Glues such as cyanoacrylate are used to obliterate gastric varices. Cyanoacrylate is a liquid substance with the consistency of water that transforms into a solid state when added to a physiological medium such as blood. When injected into a varix, the glue undergoes an instantaneous polymerisation reaction and hardens to a rock hard substance, thereby plugging the lumen of the varix. This enables rapid haemostasis of active bleeding and prevents re-bleeding.

The correct code to assign for gluing of gastric varices is 30478-07 [870] *Endoscopic administration of agent into lesion of stomach or duodenum* by following the Index pathway:

Injection

- varices

- - gastric → 30478-07 [870] *Endoscopic administration of agent into lesion of stomach or duodenum*.

### DECISION

**Gluing of gastric varices should be coded to 30478-07 [870] *Endoscopic administration of agent into lesion of stomach or duodenum*.**

[Effective 20 Jul 2016, ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 9<sup>th</sup> Ed.]