External cause

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000053   Version number: 1

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration Authority: NHIMG   Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Effective date: 30-JUN-96

Definition: External cause is the cause of any condition, where that condition is the result of injury, poisoning or violence.

Context: This item assists in injury surveillance, accident prevention studies and provides measures of some of the costs of accidents. It is also used as a quality of care indicator of adverse patient outcomes.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Alphanumeric

Representational form: CODE

Representation layout: ANNN.N

Minimum Size: 5

Maximum Size: 5

Data Domain: NOVAL   ICD-9-CM E codes

Guide For Use: An external cause code should be sequenced following the related injury or condition code, or following the group of codes if more than one injury or condition has resulted from this external cause. Provision should be made to record more than one external cause if appropriate. All external cause codes must be accompanied by a place of occurrence code (data element Place of occurrence of external cause).

Related metadata: has been superseded by External cause version 2
has been superseded by External cause - major external cause version 3

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee, National Coding Centre

Comments: Although an external cause code is not a diagnosis or condition code, the sequencing of these codes together with the additional diagnoses gives meaning to the data for use in injury surveillance and other monitoring activities.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM   Injury event

Data Agreements which include this Data Element