| **Australian Coding Standard (ACS)/Topic** | **New Zealand Clinical Coding Conventions and NMDS Reporting Requirements** | **HIMAA Assessment and Examination Marking Guidelines** |
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| ACS 0032 *Allied Health Interventions* | There is no mandatory requirement in New Zealand to report Allied Health Interventions to the NMDS. Therefore, coding Allied Health Interventions as per ACS 0032 is optional. | Allied Health Interventions from block [1916] are **not required** for HIMAA assessments and examinations. However, if codes are assigned they will be marked as optional. |
| ACS 0233 *Morphology* | There is no mandatory requirement in New Zealand to report morphology to the NMDS. Therefore, coding morphology as per ACS 0233 is optional. | Morphology codes **are required** to be assigned for HIMAA assessments and examinations. |
| ACS 0503 *Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Use Disorders* | The New Zealand Coding Convention to assign ICD-10-AM code Z71.6 *Counselling for tobacco use disorder* relates to the reporting requirement previously aligned to the Health Target ‘Better help for smokers to quit’ and the DHB Non-Financial Monitoring Framework and Performance Measure ‘Better help for smokers to quit in public hospitals’. | The ICD-10-AM code Z71.6 *Counselling for tobacco use disorder* **is required** to be assigned for HIMAA assessments and examinations, as per the New Zealand Coding Convention. |
| ACS 0534 *Specific Interventions Related to Mental Health Care Services* | There is no mandatory requirement in New Zealand to report mental health care interventions to the NMDS. Therefore, coding mental health care interventions listed in ACS 0534 is optional except for electroconvulsive therapy. | Mental health interventions are **not required** for HIMAA assessments and examinations. However, if codes are assigned they will be marked as optional. Exceptions to this include electroconvulsive therapy. |
| ACS 2001 *External Cause Code Use and Sequencing* | Z03.6 *Observation for suspected toxic effect from ingested substance* requires the assignment of an external cause to identify the specific substance, place of occurrence and activity codes. This is a mandatory requirement in New Zealand as specified in the NMDS Data Dictionary. | External cause, place of occurrence and activity codes **are required** in addition to the ICD-10-AM code Z03.6 for HIMAA assessments and examinations, as per the New Zealand NMDS Data Dictionary. |
| Gender Dysphoria/ Gender Reaffirming Surgery | The New Zealand Coding Convention for gender reaffirming surgery instructs ICD-10-AM code Z41.89 *Other procedures for purposes other than remedying health state* to be assigned as the principal diagnosis and code F64 *Gender incongruence* assigned as an additional diagnosis with codes assigned for the procedure/s performed for event records with an event end date on or after 1 July 2025. | The ICD-10-AM code assignments (Z41.89 and F64) for gender reaffirming surgery **are required** for HIMAA assessments and examinations, as per the New Zealand Coding Convention. |
| NMDS field Diagnosis/procedure description | As per the NMDS reporting requirements it is recommended that free text (editing) be used where detailed clinical statements are recorded in the clinical record, as free text information aids in research, monitoring, development of guidelines, policy and assists with the quality audit of data reported to the NMDS. | New Zealand students **are expected** to use free text for code descriptions for HIMAA assessments. |

Outlined below are the New Zealand clinical coding and NMDS reporting requirements that differ from the guidelines provided in the Australian Coding Standards and the expectations for New Zealand clinical coders who are completing HIMAA assessments and/or examinations.

Source: Australia Coding Standards, Twelfth Edition, Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA), 2022