

DRUG TOXICITY AND POISONING

Poisoning is a type of drug toxicity that can be captured in ICD-10-CM. Poisoning is defined as improper use of a medication (e.g., overdose, wrong substance given or taken in error, wrong route of administration). Examples of poisoning include:

- Errors made in drug prescription or in the administration of the drug by a provider, nurse, patient, or another person.
- If an overdose of a drug was intentionally taken or administered and resulted in drug toxicity.
- Nonprescribed drug or medicinal agent taken with correctly prescribed and properly administered drug resulting in drug toxicity or other reaction from the interaction of the two drugs.
 - The use of an illicit substance in combination with a prescribed medication is NOT sufficient to support the diagnosis of poisoning. Documentation should specifically reference drug toxicity or other reactions and attribute it to the interaction of properly taken medication with the non-prescribed substance.
 - For example, when a reaction results from the interaction of prescribed drugs and alcohol.

Reference: ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2023, Page 81 of 118