

HCC Coding and Documentation - Do's and Don'ts

WHAT IS HCC?

Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC) is a system created by CMS for risk-related ICD-10 codes. CMS uses HCC's to assess, adjust and pay for the costs of taking care of the disease burden among beneficiaries. HCC codes are based on a face-to-face encounter note and must be reported annually.

CODING DON'TS

DO NOT code conditions as:

- ▶ "suspected"
- ▶ "possible"
- ▶ "rule out"
- ▶ "likely"

DOCUMENTATION STRATEGY: ALL ENCOUNTERS MUST CONTAIN THE INFORMATION BELOW:

- Patient name/DOB on every page.
- Date of service.
- Signature of provider plus credentials.
- Document to highest specificity.
- Diagnoses must include an assessment (stable, worsening, etc.) or treatment plan. Diagnoses lists are not sufficient.

CODING DO'S

DO

use terms like "due to" or "secondary to" in describing the relationship between disease and manifestation.

DO document if the patient has any of the following conditions:

- Any active cancer under current treatment
- Metastatic cancer
- Myelodysplastic syndrome
- Protein-calorie malnutrition
- Morbid obesity (+BMI)
- Schizophrenia / schizoaffective disorder
- Major depression (with level of severity)
- Alcohol or drug dependence (even in remission)
- Parkinson's disease
- Multiple sclerosis
- Epilepsy (seizure disorder)
- Angina
- Congestive heart failure
- Atrial fibrillation
- Peripheral vascular disease
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Chronic respiratory failure
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Chronic hepatitis
- Gastrostomy status
- Ileostomy status
- Colostomy status
- Renal dialysis status
- Noncompliance with renal dialysis status
- Respirator dependence status
- Lower limb amputation status
- Heart, lung or liver transplant

SYMPTOMS/FINDINGS**CONSIDER THIS DIAGNOSIS****ICD-10****WEIGHT****HCC**

Alcohol abuse/Alcoholism	Alcohol dependence, uncomplicated	F10.20	0.538	55
History of alcohol dependence/remission	Alcohol dependence in remission, uncomplicated	F10.21	0.538	55
Opioid use/Chronic pain syndrome (Vicoden, etc.)	Opioid dependence, uncomplicated	F11.20X	0.538	55
Insomnia or anxiety on medications (Ambien, Xanax)	Sedative, hypnotic or anxiolytic dependence, uncomplicated	F13.20X	0.538	55
Drug Abuse	Other psychoactive substance dependence, uncomplicated	F19.20	0.538	55
History of drug dependence/remission	Other psychoactive substance in remission	F19.21	0.538	55
Depression	Major depression (mild, moderate, severe)	F32.0-F32.5 /F33.0-F33.3, F33.9	0.299	59
Major depression no longer on medications	Major depression full remission	F32.5-F33.42	0.299	59
Low WBD/RBC/platelet	Other Pancytopenia	D61.818	0.452	47
Low WBC/luekopenia	Neutropenia	D70.9	0.452	47
Compression fracture	Age-related osteoporosis w/current pathological fx, other osteoporosis w/current pathological fx, initial encounter for fx	M80.08XA, M80.88XA	0.532	169
Weight loss/inability to eat/anorexia	Malnutrition of protien-calorie (severe-mild) degree	E43, E44.0, E44.1	0.693	21
Chest Pain	Angina Pectoris, unspecified	I20.9	0.034	88
Elevated pulmonary artery pressure	Chronic pulmonary heart disease, unspecified	I27.9	0.371	85
GFR is (15-29) last 2 blood tests	CKD 4	N18.4	0.26	137
GFR is less than 14 last 2 blood tests	CKD 5	N18.5	0.26	136
CKD on dialysis	Dialysis state	Z99.2	0.683	134
Increased parathyroid hormone	Hyperparathyroidism	E21.X	0.211	23
Any condition related to diabetes	DM w/other manifestations	E11.6X	0.34	18
Diabetic foot ulcer	DM with foot ulcer	E11.641	0.34	17
Chronic cough greater than 3 months	Simple chronic bronchitis, chronic bronchitis	J41.0, J42	0.43	111
Lung disease	COPD w/emphysema	J43.9	0.43	111
Incidental finding on X-Ray	Aortic atherosclerosis or aneurysm, ruptured	I71.1, I71.3, I71.5, I71.8	0.565	107
Incidental finding on X-Ray	Aortic atherosclerosis or aneurysm, w/o rupture	I70.0, I71.2, I71.4, I71.6	0.294	108