



ICD-10 Documentation Tips

Gastroenterology Services

The following are important documentation tips and strategies for ICD-10 compliance:

General:

- a. Document diagnosis that were “present on admission” as POA.
- b. Include diagnoses monitored, treated, evaluated on discharge summary.
- c. Laterality should be specified for all body parts and sites.

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Abdominal Pain/Findings	Symptoms/Location: e.g., RUQ Tenderness with rigidity Provide the underlying cause of ascites: e.g., malignancy, alcoholic cirrhosis, alcoholic hepatitis, chronic active hepatitis in toxic liver disease, etc.
Malnutrition	Type: e.g., Protein calorie, Protein energy Severity: Mild or 1 st degree, Moderate or 2 nd degree, Severe or 3 rd degree Document BMI

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Anemia	Type: Nutritional deficiency (Iron, B12, folate, etc.), Hemolytic, Sickle Cell (with or without crisis) with acute chest syndrome or splenic sequestration, Aplastic (drug induced, idiopathic, etc.), Blood loss (acute, chronic, postoperative) Cause: e.g., Neoplastic disease, Chronic kidney disease Include: Any alcohol or drug use, abuse, dependence or past history If Drug Induced: Specify name of medication or drug with purpose of its use
Barrett’s Esophagus	Specify: With low grade dysplasia, with high grade dysplasia, without dysplasia
Colitis	Type/Cause: Clostridium difficile, Drug-induced, Due to radiation, Infectious, Ischemic (acute, subacute, or chronic), Pseudomembranous, Ulcerative, Crohn’s disease Associated: Bleeding, Abscess, Fistula, Obstruction
Crohn’s Disease	Complications: Rectal bleeding, Intestinal obstruction, Fistula, Abscess, etc. due to Crohn’s Disease Site: Large intestine, Small Intestine Note: The term “inflammatory bowel disease” when intended diagnosis is Crohn’s disease may understate the severity of illness and risk of mortality.
Complications of Surgery	Timeframe: Intraoperatively, Postoperatively
Dysphagia	Phase: Oral, Oropharyngeal, pharyngeal, pharyngo-esophageal Designate if sequelae of nontraumatic hemorrhage and type: subarachnoid, intracerebral, intracranial Designate if sequelae of: Cerebral infarction, Cerebrovascular disease

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Esophageal Reflux	Designate: With or without esophagitis
Esophagitis / Gastritis	Acuity: Acute, Chronic Differentiate Between: Esophagitis, Gastritis, Gastroduodenitis, Duodenitis Type: Alcoholic, Superficial, Atrophic, due to GERD Document any related hemorrhage Designate: Any alcohol or drug use, abuse, dependence or past history If Drug Induced: Specify name of medication or drug with purpose of its use
Gastroenteritis	Etiology: Infectious, Non-infectious If infectious: designate organism if known or suspected If non-infectious – cause: Radiation or drug induced - specify drug if known; Allergic or food hypersensitivity – specify food when known
Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage	Site and Cause: e.g., Crohn’s Disease with rectal bleed, Diverticulitis (specify site) with bleed, Duodenal ulcer with hemorrhage, Gastric ulcer with hemorrhage Related: Acute and/or chronic blood loss anemia Differentiate Between: Hematemesis, Melena, Rectal Bleed

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Hemorrhoids	<p>Identify the stage/grade: Grade/stage I – Hemorrhoids (bleeding) without prolapse outside of anal canal. Grade/stage II – Hemorrhoids (bleeding) that prolapse with straining, but retract spontaneously. Grade/stage III – Hemorrhoids (bleeding) that prolapse with straining and require manual replacement back inside anal canal. Grade/stage IV – Hemorrhoids (bleeding) with prolapsed tissue that cannot be manually replaced. Specify if the patient is in labor or pregnant. Indicate whether the hemorrhoids are internal or external</p>
Hepatic Failure/Hepatic Encephalopathy	<p>Acuity: Acute/subacute or Chronic, if with hepatic coma Etiology: Due to alcohol or drugs Additional Signs or Symptoms: Confusion, Altered levels of consciousness, Coma</p>
Liver Cirrhosis	<p>Underlying Cause: Alcoholic, Fatty, Syphilitic, Congenital, Cryptogenic Associate: Ascites, Fibrosis, Sclerosis, Portal Hypertension, Esophageal varices (w or wo bleed), Viral Hepatitis Designate: Any alcohol or drug use, abuse, dependence or past history If Drug Induced: Specify name of medication or drug with purpose of its use</p>
Neoplasms	<p>Specific Site, Laterality: Right, Left, Bilateral Morphology: e.g., Malignant, Benign, In Situ, Uncertain/Unspecified Behavior</p>

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Obesity	<p>Etiology: e.g., Nutritional, Due to thyroid or pituitary disorder If morbidly obese: Document if with hypoventilation syndrome Document BMI</p>
Pancreatitis	<p>Acuity: Acute, Chronic Type: Idiopathic, Biliary, Alcohol-induced, Drug-induced Document: Document any drug abuse or dependence</p>
Sepsis	<p>Type: Systemic or causal organism Avoid term 'UROSEPSIS' – consider 'UTI with Sepsis' Associated Condition: Circulatory failure related to Sepsis and/or Septic Shock, Severe Sepsis with specific related acute organ dysfunction Related local infections: Pneumonia, Cellulitis, UTI, Catheter related, etc.</p>
PROCEDURES	
Endoscopy	<p>Reason: Inspection, Diagnostic biopsy, Control of hemorrhage, Dilation with stent placement, Excision of lesion, Removal of foreign body</p>

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Injection/Infusion	<p>Substance administered: analgesic, sedative, anti-inflammatory, etc. Thrombolytic agent substance: recombinant human-activated protein C, other thrombolytic</p>
PEG	<p>Method: Insertion, Removal, Revision, Change</p>
Percutaneous Abdominal Drainage	<p>Site: Greater or lesser omentum, Mesentery, Peritoneum, Abdominal wall, Peritoneal cavity, Pelvic cavity Drainage device: With or Without Approach: Open, Percutaneous, Percutaneous endoscopic</p>
Transfusion:	<p>Product Transfused: e.g., PRBC, FFP, albumin, etc. Designate: autologous or nonautologous If Autologous – when collected: Prior to surgery, intraoperative, perioperative, post-operative Site of administration: Central artery or vein, Peripheral artery or vein Approach: Open, Percutaneous</p>

Reference(s):

<http://www.capefearvalley.com/cme/icd10doctips.html>
[Precyse University ICD-10 Virtual Code Book](#)

This ICD-10 Tipsheet is meant to assist providers for the transition from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Content provided is informal guidance, and any definitive guidance is issued from CMS.