

Molina Healthcare Coding Tips

Hepatitis



Welcome to the Molina Healthcare Coding Institute.

Molina Healthcare is committed to supporting your clinical practice. Please take a moment to review this HCC Pearl.

Coding hepatitis can be a bit challenging. The key is differentiating between the acute and chronic states. Chronic Hepatitis B and C are risk-adjusted diagnoses, Acute Hepatitis and Hepatitis unspecified codes are not.

How does one define chronic? After an initial infection, any persistence of the virus is considered chronic.

Chronic Hepatitis C affects approximately four million Americans. The CDC recommends screening for the following higher risk patients:

IV drug use, transfusion of clotting factors prior to 1987, transfusion of blood or organs prior to 1992, hemodialysis, current liver disease, HIV infection, Healthcare workers, and children born to HCV positive mothers.

Chronic Hepatitis B is very common in Southeast Asia, China, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Statistics report that one in 10 persons from South Asia may have Chronic Hepatitis B. Thus screening patients from this area is very important.



What ICD-9 Do I Use to Code Hepatitis?

- » Chronic Hepatitis-C 070.54
 - Without coma, without mention of delta
 - With coma 070.44
- » Chronic Hepatitis-B without coma without delta 070.32
 - With delta 070.33
- » Chronic Hepatitis C
 - With coma 070.44
 - Without coma 070.54

What are the non-viral chronic hepatitis codes?

- » Chronic Hepatitis, unspecified 571.40
- » Chronic Persistent Hepatitis 571.41
- » Autoimmune Hepatitis 571.42
- » Alcoholic Hepatitis 571.1

Acceptable Documentation:

- » 65 year old Vietnamese male with Chronic Hepatitis B with stable liver function test here for follow-up needing additional labs
Assessment: No new concerns
Plan: Repeat studies and repeat imaging
- » 58 year old with Schizophrenia, IV drug use needing evaluation of Chronic Hepatitis here for follow-up
Assessment: Uncertain status
Plan: Repeat labs and follow up in one month

Incomplete Documentation:

- » 65 year old Vietnamese male here for follow-up
Assessment: Chronic
Plan: Check labs

Have Questions?

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