

Molina Healthcare Coding Education Morbid Obesity



What qualifies as morbid obesity?
Different numbers are throw around, but
for ICD coding, these are the criteria:

- Patients with a BMI equal to or above 40
- A BMI of 35 or greater CAN be diagnosed as morbid obesity if there are relevant obesity-related conditions or comorbidities.

These comorbid conditions include osteoarthritis, sleep apnea, diabetes, coronary artery disease, hypertension, hyperlipidemia and gastroesophageal reflux disease.

Documentation Examples:

- **Assessment:** 30 year old male with morbid obesity, BMI 41
 - **HCC/ICD-10 Codes:**
 - E66.01 Morbid (severe) obesity due to excess calories
 - Z68.41 Body mass index (BMI) 40.0 – 44.9, adult

Plan: Weight loss plan discussed

OR

- **Assessment:** 40 year old female with morbid obesity, BMI 38 with severe obstructive sleep apnea
 - **HCC/ICD-10 Codes:**
 - E66.01 Morbid (severe) obesity due to excess calories
 - Z68.38 Body mass index (BMI) 38.0 – 38.9, adult

Plan: Continue weight loss program and use CPAP system during sleep

Have Questions?

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