

Molina Healthcare Coding Education Is There A Code for High Homocysteine Levels?



The cardiologist ordered a homocysteine level and it was high. Can I code for a high level?

Yes.

If a level was obtained in the past, you may use ICD-10 code **E72.11** in **ICD-10** and **270.4** in **ICD-9** (Disturbance sulfur bearing amino-acid metabolism, hyperhomocysteinemia)

NOTE: Treating homocysteine levels is currently **not** recommended by UpToDate (UTD)*

- Mild elevation in homocysteine levels are common, and seen in about 5% to 7% of the general population
- Mounting evidence suggests that moderate hyperhomocysteinemia is an independent risk factor for atherosclerotic vascular disease and for recurrent venous thromboembolism
- Cigarette smoking and renal failure can elevate homocysteine levels
- Treatment has not been demonstrated to effect mortality

Documentation Examples:

- 52 year old male with concerns for cardiac disease and risk

Assessment: Pt with previously ordered homocysteine level (19.1 umol/L), high, indicates increased CV risk

- **ICD-9 Code: 270.4** Disturbances of sulphur-bearing amino-acid metabolism
- **ICD-10 Code: E72.11** Homocystinuria

Plan: Increased activity level, healthy diet, risk factor control

*UTD Overview of Homocysteine Rosenson, et al. Literature review through April 2014

Have Questions?

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