Molina Healthcare Coding Education

Chronic Respiratory Failure or Hypoxemia: Is it important to be specific?



YES! It is vital to be specific based on your clinical judgment, in order to ensure Member receives the proper care. Each code may require a different treatment.

Chronic Respiratory Failure (J96.10)

Acute Respiratory Insuf. /Distress (J80)

Acute Resp. Failure (J96.00)

 Focus on a more specific and accurate clinical description to ensure the best care for member

799.02 Hypoxemia (R09.02)

- Non-specific clinical description
- Should document the disease or diagnosis that caused the hypoxemia

Note: ICD-10-CM requires documentation of tobacco exposure for Pulmonary diseases

Documentation Examples:

A/P:

- 60 year old male with chronic resp. failure
 Assessment: Dependent on home O2, good saturation today.
 - HCC/ICD-10 Code: J96.10 Chronic Respiratory Failure, unspecified whether with hypoxia or hypercapnia
 - HCC/ICD-10 Code: Z99.81 Oxygen Dependence (long-term) (supplemental)

Plan: Cont. inhalers

OR

A/P:

- 35 year old female with acute respiratory distress due to chronic obstructive asthma
 Assessment: Not improving with inhalers
 - HCC/ICD-10 Code: J80 Acute respiratory distress syndrome
 - HCC/ICD-10 Code: J44.9 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
 - > **J45.909** Asthma, unspecified

Plan: Will start O2 by nasal cannula, call ED

Have Questions?

Contact: Ramp@MolinaHealthcare.com

The information presented herein is for informational and illustrative purposes only. It is not intended, nor is it to be used, to define a standard of care or otherwise substitute for informed medical evaluation, diagnosis and treatment which can be performed by a qualified medical professional. Molina Healthcare Inc. does not warrant or represent that the information contained herein is accurate or free from defects.