

Molina Healthcare Coding Education Coding Acute Conditions After Hospitalization



Some acute conditions can only be coded during initial hospitalization or initial treatment:

- Acute CVA
- Acute respiratory failure
- Acute amputations
- Acute coronary syndrome

Other conditions are coded in follow-up visits as long as the condition is still present:

- Pneumonia, other infections
- Skin ulcer

Most conditions that are not being actively monitored, assessed, evaluated or treated require the use of "history of..." codes after the acute period.

- Z codes for "history of..."
- Z codes for status – amputation status, transplant status

Coding Tip:

- "Sequela/Late effects of CVA" should be documented immediately after discharge.
- History of MI should be coded 5 weeks after the initial diagnosis of MI. This is a change from 8 weeks in ICD-9.

Documentation Examples:

Post-Acute Care Follow-Up

Assessment: 88 year old male with mild hemiparesis since CVA 2 weeks ago

- Strength improving, now doing ADLs
 - **ICD-10 Code:** I69.359 Hemiplegia and hemiparesis following cerebral infarction affecting unspecified side

Plan: Use 4-prong cane, continue physical therapy

Assessment: 37 year old female presents for hospital follow-up for Lobar Pneumonia

- Supplemental O₂ requirement improving
 - **ICD-10 Code:** J18.1 Lobar Pneumonia, unspecified organism

Plan: Finish antibiotic course, wean oxygen

Assessment: 52 year old male with MI 5 weeks ago

- No recurrent chest pain, no dyspnea on exertion
 - **ICD-10 Code:** I25.2 Old myocardial infarction

Plan: Continue disease modifying agents and cardiac rehab

Have Questions?

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