

The Coder's Corner

By Jaelyn Robinson, MPsych, CPC, CANPC

Medi-Corp, Inc.

Series: November 2019 Coding Tip

In honor of World Diabetes Day

THE DO'S AND DO NOT'S FOR CODING DIABETES MELLITUS

1. Be specific.

There are 5 Categories for coding Diabetes Mellitus



- E08 – Diabetes Mellitus due to underlying conditions
- E09 – Drug or chemical induced Diabetes Mellitus
- E10 – Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus
- E11 – Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
- E13 – Other specified Diabetes Mellitus

2. Document control

ICD-10 does not have distinct codes for well controlled or uncontrolled diabetes. However, EXX.64X or EXX64 can be used for Hypo/Hyper glycemia. A 4th character of 9 can be used for “without complications” for well controlled diabetes.

3. Include Complications

There are many complications that can occur, which are directly caused by Diabetes Mellitus. Many of them can be coded within the Diabetes category.

For Example:

EXX.2 .. With kidney complications

EXX.4 .. With Neurological complications

EXX.8 .. With unspecified complications

4. Insulin Usage

Documentation of insulin usage is important. Use the following codes for insulin use:

Z79.4 Long term (current) use of insulin

Z79.84 Long term (current) use of oral hypoglycemic drugs

5. When NOT to code Diabetes Mellitus

If Diabetes Mellitus has not been confirmed, don't use to codes from the Diabetes categories. Instead, these alternative codes can be used:

R73.03 Prediabetes

R73.9 Hyperglycemia, unspecified

