



ICD-10 Coding Tip

COPD

In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding and Medical Billing Professionals with ICD-10, the following training tip is provided with an educational intent.

- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)** is a general term used to describe a variety of conditions that result in obstruction of the airway. ICD-10-CM classifies these conditions to category J44, Other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Category J44 includes the following clinical terms: asthma with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; chronic asthmatic (obstructive) bronchitis; chronic bronchitis with airways obstruction; chronic bronchitis with emphysema; chronic emphysematous bronchitis; chronic obstructive asthma; chronic obstructive bronchitis and chronic obstructive tracheobronchitis.
- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with acute lower respiratory infection:** Assign code J44.1 for COPD with a lower respiratory infection. Use an additional code to identify infection. Note that acute bronchitis is included in this code.
- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with (acute) exacerbation:** Assign code J44.2 for COPD with (acute) exacerbation. This code includes decompensated COPD and decompensated COPD with (acute) exacerbation. Note this code does NOT include acute bronchitis.
- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, unspecified:** Assign code J44.9 for COPD. This code includes chronic obstructive airway disease NOS and chronic obstructive lung disease NOS.

References: ICD-10-CM Official Coding Guidelines for Coding and Reporting, 2014

Coding Clinic is the official resource and authority for ICD-10 coding rules and conventions.

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