

NEOPLASM OVERVIEW

- In ICD-10-CM, neoplasms are classified by type, site, behavior, and clinical status
 - Clearly document if the patient is undergoing active treatment or has a history of neoplasm
 - **Active or current status:** neoplasm is still present and/or receiving treatment
 - **Historical status:** neoplasm has been excised/eradicated, treatment completed, and no evidence of disease
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Clinical Concepts

Diagnostic criteria will vary with the location and type of neoplasm. Physical exam, laboratory studies, and imaging tests are performed to screen for the presence of neoplasms. Biopsy and pathological studies are used to confirm the diagnosis.

Documentation Matters

History – document the date of onset, presence or absence of current symptoms related to the neoplasm, results of prior diagnostic testing, and any previous medical or surgical interventions.

Exam – document visible or palpable abnormalities like skin lesions, unusual swellings, or changes in skin color. Include any artificial openings or implanted devices that are present.

Assessment – document the type, site, and current status of neoplasms. Include stage or grade, if known, as well as any associated complications or contributing factors.

Plan – document the treatment or management plan, including dates, and timeline for reevaluation or follow-up.

- Surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, hormone therapy and/or biological therapy
- Adjunctive therapy following initial treatment
 - Indicate whether for treatment or prophylactic purposes
- Active surveillance (i.e. watchful waiting), refusal of treatment, or palliative care
 - Document the reason and disease progression
- Routine post-treatment surveillance (i.e. monitoring for recurrence)

Coding Guidance

In order for accurate code assignment to occur, the following information must be documented in the progress note:

- **Behavior/Type**
 - Malignant, in situ, or benign
 - Primary or secondary (i.e. metastasis)
 - Morphology/Histology (if known)
- **Location**
 - Anatomical site
 - Laterality (if applicable)
- **Clinical Status**
 - Current/Active
 - Historical/Resolved

The ICD-10 rule is to code neoplasms only when the patient has evidence of active disease or is still receiving treatment for the tumor(s). Once treatment is complete and there is no evidence of residual or recurrent disease, the appropriate code to use is a “personal history of” benign or malignant neoplasm.. Update the problem list and use the history code for routine post-treatment surveillance visits and annual exams.

Documentation should clearly indicate and provide support for the current/active status of a neoplasm. Examples include:

- Newly confirmed diagnosis awaiting treatment
- Currently undergoing chemotherapy, radiation, or other anti-neoplasm drug therapy
- Watchful waiting or treatment refusal
- Palliative care or hospice

ICD-10-CM provides codes specifying remission status for lymphoid and hematopoietic cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma when there is no evidence of disease but the malignancies are likely to reoccur.

For outpatient claims, do not code for a suspected or possible cancer diagnosis. Rather, use codes to report the symptom(s) or abnormal finding(s) without a definitive diagnosis codes.

References

[ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding & Reporting](#)

Neoplasm Diagnoses

ICD-10-CM	Code Description	HCC Model
C00-C14*	Malignant neoplasms of lip, oral cavity and pharynx	CMS/HHS
C15-C26*	Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs	CMS/HHS
C16-C39*	Malignant neoplasms of respiratory and intrathoracic organs	CMS/HHS
C40-C41*	Malignant neoplasms of bone and articular cartilage	CMS/HHS
C43-C4A*	Melanoma and Merkel cell carcinoma	CMS/HHS
C44*	Other and unspecified malignant neoplasms of skin	-
C45-C49*	Malignant neoplasms of mesothelial and soft tissue	CMS/HHS
C50*	Malignant neoplasms of breast	CMS/HHS
C51-C58*	Malignant neoplasms of female genital organs	CMS/HHS
C60-C63*	Malignant neoplasms of male genital organs	CMS/HHS
C64-C68*	Malignant neoplasms of urinary tract	CMS/HHS
C69-C72*	Malignant neoplasms of eye, brain and other parts of central nervous system	CMS/HHS
C73-C75*	Malignant neoplasms of thyroid and other endocrine glands	CMS/HHS
C7A*	Malignant neuroendocrine tumors	CMS/HHS
C7B*	Secondary malignant neuroendocrine tumors	CMS/HHS
C77-C79*	Secondary malignant neoplasms	CMS/HHS
C81-C96*	Malignant neoplasms of lymphoid, hematopoietic and related tissue	CMS/HHS
D00-D09*	In-situ neoplasms	+
D10-D36*	Benign neoplasms	++
D3A*	Benign neuroendocrine tumors	CMS
D37-D48*	Neoplasms of uncertain behavior, polycythemia vera and myelodysplastic syndrome	CMS/HHS
Z85*	Personal history of malignant neoplasm	-
Z86.0*	Personal history of in-situ and benign neoplasms	-

+ Melanoma in-situ included in CMS/HHS models

++Benign and uncertain neoplasms of the central nervous system included in CMS/HHS models

Additional Diagnoses to Consider

ICD-10-CM	Code Description	HCC Model
D61.810	Antineoplastic chemotherapy induced pancytopenia	-
D63.0	Anemia in neoplastic disease	-
D64.81	Anemia due to antineoplastic chemotherapy	-
D70.1	Agranulocytosis secondary to cancer chemotherapy	-
G62.0	Drug-induced polyneuropathy	HHS
G62.82	Radiation-induced polyneuropathy	-
G89.3	Neoplasm related pain	-
R64	Cachexia	HHS
Z08	Encounter for follow-up exam after completed treatment for malignant neoplasm	-
Z15.0*	Genetic susceptibility to malignant neoplasm	-
Z80*	Family history of primary malignant neoplasm	-
Z90*	Acquired absence of organs	-
Z93*	Artificial opening status	CMS/HHS

*Additional characters needed to complete code