

Molina Healthcare

Coding Education

How to code a patient on Dialysis?



Providing care for patients with chronic kidney disease, end stage renal disease, and for those on dialysis can be complicated. But documenting their care should not be. The coding tips below guide you through the proper documentation of these kidney disorders.

Coding Tips:

- 1) Document the stage of the CKD N18.1-N18.5 (stages 1-5).
- 2) Document N18.5 if the patient has CKD stage 5, but not yet requiring or electing dialysis.
- 3) Do not use N18.5 CKD stage 5 if the patient has ESRD and is on dialysis.
- 4) Document N18.6 (end stage renal disease) if the patient has CKD stage 5 and requires dialysis.
- 5) Document Z99.2* (dependence on renal dialysis) for patients on dialysis after also documenting N18.6 (end stage renal disease). These conditions must be documented together in the medical record.

*Appropriate for hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis

Documentation Examples:

Initial Diagnosis

Assessment: 71 year old male with worsening renal failure and decreasing GFR now at 13

- Chronic Kidney Disease stage 5, has refused preparations for dialysis

➤ **ICD-10 Code:** N18.5 CKD stage 5

Plan: Reconsider dialysis decision, will arrange a family meeting, referral to nephrology

Existing Diagnosis

Assessment: 72 year old female with ESRD currently on dialysis

- Weight stable, compliant with renal diet
- **ICD-10 Code:** N18.6 End stage renal disease
- **And ICD-10 Code:** Z99.2 Dependence on Renal Dialysis

Plan: Follow up with nephrology, and encourage hemodialysis and medical therapy compliance

Have Questions?

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