

Risk Coding Tips and Tools

Hemiplegia/Hemiparesis (Late Effects/Sequelae of CVA)

 Avoid I63.9, Cerebral infarction, unspecified in the outpatient setting, this is an acute condition and is only coded during the initial episode of care.

Documentation Tips:

- Late effects/sequelae of Cerebral Vascular Accident (CVA) should be documented after the initial acute episode of care, provided there is clear documentation of a cause-and-effect relationship
- When specifying hemiplegia or hemiparesis, ask the patient if they are left or right-handed to identify if the patient's **dominant** or **nondominant** side was affected
- Refer to diagnosis codes in Category I69- for the specific residual deficits
- **History of CVA** with no current associated residual deficits codes to **Z86.73**

Documentation Example

Example:

Diagnosis: Hemiplegia and hemiparesis following cerebral infarction affecting right dominant side (I69.351)

Chief Complaint:

A 63-year-old female presents to the office for weakness of the right side.

History of Present Illness:

Patient admits to muscle weakness on the right side. She suffered from a CVA in 2019 and continues to have residual deficits of the right side. She uses a walking cane to help with her gait and would like to try some OT sessions for helping to improve her balance.

Physical Exam:

Musculoskeletal: Right arm and leg – limited active range of motion of right arm and leg.

Neurological: Motor – Right sided weakness, and loss of sensation across the right arm and leg.

Treatment Plan:

Patient will be referred for PT/OT evaluation. Fall precautions discussed, continue to use cane for gait stability. Follow-up in 4 months.

References:

CMS. (2023). ICD-10-CM Official guidelines for coding and reporting FY 2023. CMS.gov.

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2023-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines-updated-01/11/2023.pdf>

National Library of Medicine. (2021). Stroke. Medlineplus.gov. <https://medlineplus.gov/stroke.html>

Cleveland Clinic. (2022). Hemiplegia. Clevelandclinic.org.

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/symptoms/23542-hemiplegia>

You can find this resource and others like it in the OHN Risk Coding Corner at www.OrlandoHealth.com/Network/Resources.

You can also contact us at RiskCoding@OrlandoHealth.com for additional questions or support needs.