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Risk Coding Tips and Tools
Risk Adjustment Coding for Diabetic Complications

To correctly support diabetes <u>and</u> its diabetic complication(s), each condition should be documented with an <u>appropriate status and treatment plan</u>.

Physician Documentation Examples
Example 1: A 63-year-old female presented to the office for a routine follow up for her diabetic chronic kidney disease stage 3a. Her A1C is 6.1 and she needs a refill for metformin[1]. Chronic kidney disease is stable per nephrologist, and she will continue to avoid NSAIDS[2]. ⭐ Correct Codes: E11.22 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease[1] and N18.31 chronic kidney disease stage 3a[2].
Example 2: A 63-year-old female presented to the office for a routine follow up for diabetes. She has not been following her diet guidelines. She has gained 2 pounds. Sugars are running high in the mornings. Refilled metformin and cautioned about eating sweets. ❌ Incorrect Code: E11.69 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complication. The provider chose a diabetic complication condition <u>without</u> documenting the specified complication.
Example 3: A 63-year-old female presented to the office for a routine follow up. She has Type 2 diabetes which is diet controlled[1]. Her hyperlipidemia has improved this month since she is regularly taking her medication[2]. Refill atorvastatin and metformin and follow up in 3 months[1,2]. Hyperlipidemia due to diabetes. ⭐ Correct Codes: E11.69 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complication[1] and E78.5 Hyperlipidemia[2]: In this case, E11.69 can be coded since the provider tied the hyperlipidemia complication to the diabetes and supported both conditions with a status and treatment plan.

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

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.