

Hypertension coding tool

The ICD-10-CM classification presumes a causal relationship between hypertension and heart involvement and between hypertension and kidney involvement, as the two conditions are linked by the term “with” in the Alphabetic Index. These conditions should be coded as related even in the absence of provider documentation explicitly linking them, unless the documentation clearly states the conditions are unrelated. For hypertension and conditions not specifically linked by relational terms such as “with” or “due to” in the classification, provider documentation must link the conditions in order to code them as related.¹

Documentation tips for hypertension

Essential (primary) hypertension	
I10	Essential (primary) hypertension

- I10 includes high blood pressure in addition to benign, arterial, malignant and systemic hypertension
- R03.0 is for elevated blood-pressure reading, without a diagnosis of hypertension

Hypertensive heart disease	
I11.0	Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
I11.9	Hypertensive heart disease without heart failure

- Includes any condition in **I50.-** or **I51.4-I51.9** due to hypertension



Note: Do not assign a code from this category when provider documentation indicates the heart disease is attributable to another cause (AHA Coding Clinic®: 2018 2Q, 9).

Assign a code from category I11 when a patient has hypertension with heart failure or hypertension with: myocarditis (**I51.4**), myocardial degeneration (**I51.5**), cardiomegaly (I51.7), Takotsubo syndrome (I51.81), or other ill-defined (I51.89) or unspecified heart disease (I51.9).

The same heart conditions (**I50.-**, **I51.4-I51.9**) with hypertension are coded separately if the provider has specifically documented a different cause. Sequence according to the circumstances of the admission/encounter.¹

If coding hypertensive heart disease with heart failure (I11.0), use an additional code to identify the type of heart failure (I50.1-I50.9) ¹			
I50.1	Left ventricular failure, unspecified	I50.82	Biventricular heart failure
I50.2-	Systolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.83	High output heart failure
I50.3-	Diastolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.84	End stage heart failure
I50.4-	Combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.89	Other heart failure
I50.81-	Right heart failure • Add 6th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (4) due to left heart failure, (0) unspecified	I50.9	Heart failure, unspecified (congestive heart disease; congestive heart failure NOS [CHF])

- For **I50.2-**, **I50.3-** and **I50.4-**, code also end stage heart failure, if applicable (**I50.84**).
- For **I50.814**, **I50.82** and **I50.84**, code also the type of heart failure, if known (**I50.2- – I50.43**).

If coding hypertension with chronic kidney disease, use an additional code to identify the stage of CKD (N18.1-N18.6)¹

I12.0	Hypertensive CKD with stage 5 CKD or end stage renal disease
I12.9	Hypertensive CKD with stage 1 through stage 4 CKD, or unspecified CKD

- If a patient has hypertensive chronic kidney disease and acute renal failure, an additional code for the acute renal failure is required.

If coding hypertensive heart disease with heart failure and chronic kidney disease (I13.0, I13.2), use an additional code to identify the type of heart failure (I50.1-I50.9 and the stage of CKD (N18.1-N18.6)¹

I13.0	Hypertensive heart and CKD with heart failure and stage 1 through stage 4 CKD, or unspecified CKD
I13.10	Hypertensive heart and CKD without heart failure, with stage 1 through stage 4 CKD, or unspecified CKD
I13.11	Hypertensive heart and CKD without heart failure, with stage 5 CKD, or end stage renal disease
I13.2	Hypertensive heart and CKD with heart failure and with stage 5 CKD, or end stage renal disease

- For patients with both acute renal failure and chronic kidney disease, an additional code for acute renal failure is required.

Heart failure

I50.1	Left ventricular failure, unspecified	I50.82	Biventricular heart failure
I50.2-	Systolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.83	High output heart failure
I50.3-	Diastolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.84	End stage heart failure
I50.4-	Combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure • Add 5th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (0) unspecified	I50.89	Other heart failure
I50.81-	Right heart failure • Add 6th character: (1) acute, (2) chronic, (3) acute on chronic, (4) due to left heart failure, (0) unspecified	I50.9	Heart failure, unspecified (congestive heart disease; congestive heart failure NOS [CHF])

- For **I50.2-**, **I50.3-** and **I50.4-**, code also end stage heart failure, if applicable (**I50.84**).
- For **I50.814**, **I50.82** and **I50.84**, code also the type of heart failure, if known (**I50.2- – I50.43**).

Chronic kidney disease

N18.1	CKD, Stage 1	N18.4	CKD, Stage 4 (severe)	N18.9	CKD, unspecified
N18.2	CKD, Stage 2 (mild)	N18.5	CKD, Stage 5 (requiring chronic dialysis use N18.6)		
N18.3	CKD, Stage 3 (moderate)	N18.6	End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)		
*Use an additional code to specify: "Dialysis status" (Z99.2) "Noncompliance with dialysis" (Z91.15) "Kidney transplant status" (Z94.0)					

Per the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2020: "A dash (-) at the end of an alphabetic index entry indicates that additional characters are required. Even if a dash is not included at the alphabetic index entry, it is necessary to refer to the tabular list to verify that no 7th character is required." The bolding of the ICD-10-CM codes represents categories, subcategories or codes that map to the CMS-HCC risk adjustment model for payment year 2020.

1. Optum360 ICD-10-CM: Professional for Physicians 2020. Salt Lake City, UT: 2019.
2. DHHS. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2020. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/10cmguidelines-FY2020_final.pdf Published October 1, 2019.



This guidance is to be used for easy reference; however, the current ICD-10-CM code classification and the Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting are the authoritative references for accurate and complete coding. The information presented herein is for general informational purposes only. Neither Optum nor its affiliates warrant or represent that the information contained herein is complete, accurate or free from defects. Specific documentation is reflective of the "thought process" of the provider when treating patients. All conditions affecting the care, treatment or management of the patient should be documented with their status and treatment, and coded to the highest level of specificity. Enhanced precision and accuracy in the codes selected is the ultimate goal. Lastly, on April 1, 2019, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that 2019 dates of service for the 2020 payment year model are based on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Announcement April 1, 2019. Website: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2020.pdf>

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