

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency: Coding Updates

COVID-19: CPT, HCPCS, and ICD-10 Codes

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, on February 13, 2020, CMS developed two new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes. On February 20, 2020, the CDC and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (CDC/NCHS) created a new diagnosis code into the 10th revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10) for reporting, which will be effective in their next update on October 1, 2020. Additionally, on March 13, 2020 the American Medical Association (AMA) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Editorial Panel published a new CPT code.

ICD-10 Codes

New ICD-10 Code for COVID-19

- ICD-10 emergency code for the 2019-nCoV Acute Respiratory Disease: **U07.1**
- Effective April 1, 2020

ICD-10 Codes Associated with COVID-19

- 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Codes:
 - Pneumonia: J12.89, Other viral pneumonia, along with Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.2
 - Acute Bronchitis: J20.8, Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms, and Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.29
 - Bronchitis not otherwise specified (NOS): J40, Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic; along with Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.29
 - Lower Respiratory Infection not otherwise specified (NOS) or acute respiratory infection: J22, Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection, with Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.29
 - Respiratory infection not otherwise specified: J98.8, Other specified respiratory disorders, with Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.29
 - ARDS: J80, Acute respiratory distress syndrome, and Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere: B97.29
- Exposure
 - Possible exposure to COVID-19 but ruled out after evaluation: Z03.818, Encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out
 - Actual exposure to someone confirmed to have COVID-19: Z20.828, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases
- Signs and Symptoms
 - Cough: R05
 - Shortness of breath: R06.02
 - Fever, unspecified: R50.9

CPT Codes

New CPT Code

- Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique.: **87635**

HCPCS Codes

New HCPCS Codes

- Effective April 1, 2020 for dates of service starting February 4, 2020
- CDC labs to use when reporting SARS-CoV-2 testing: **U0001**
- Non-CDC labs to use when reporting SARS-CoV-2 testing: **U0002**

References

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