New COVID-19 ICD-10-CM Codes Hot Topics

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), December 3, 2020
Effective: January 1, 2021

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) December 3 announced the implementation of six new ICD-10-CM codes to identify conditions related to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Given this development there is an ongoing and urgent need to capture more information about this condition in our surveillance data and the nation’s health care claims. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), under the National Emergencies Act Section 201 and 301, is announcing further additions to ICD-10-CM Classification related to COVID-19, that will become effective January 1, 2021.

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics (CDC/NCHS) is implementing additional codes into the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) for reporting to include:

- Encounter for screening for COVID-19 (Z11.52)
- Contact with and (suspected) exposure to COVID-19 (Z20.822)
- Personal history of COVID-19 (Z86.16)
- Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS) (M35.81)
- Other specified systemic involvement of connective tissue (M35.89)
- Pneumonia due to coronavirus disease 2019 (J12.82)

These new codes will be effective January 1, 2021 to identify conditions resulting from COVID-19. Full addenda information regarding the new codes and the final code titles will be published shortly.

ICD-10-CM interim coding guidance can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm.