

General Surgery Documentation Tips

The following are important documentation tips and strategies for ICD-10 compliance:

In General:

- a. Document diagnoses that were Present on Admission (POA).
- b. Include diagnoses monitored, treated, evaluated on discharge summary.
- c. Laterality should be specified for all body parts and sites

Condition/Concept	ICD-10 Documentation Tips
Acute/Postoperative Respiratory Failure	Type: Hypoxic, Hypercapnic, Hypoxic/Hypercapnic, Unknown
Anemia	Type: Acute blood loss anemia, chronic blood loss anemia, other type of anemia
BMI under 19	Associated diagnoses such as Underweight, Cachexia or Malnutrition
Debridement	Wound specifics: Body Part, Type (Decubitus, burn, etc.), Margin Size, Depth State: Excisional debridement of devitalized/necrotic tissue (if a surgical instrument was used), Nonexcisional debridement (if no tissue was excised)
Diabetes	Type: Type I/II, due to drugs/chemicals, underlying condition Manifestations: Nephropathy, ulcers, retinopathy, PVD, insulin usage
Gallstone/Cholecystitis	Acuity: Acute, Chronic Obstruction: With, Without
Ileus	Documented if expected or integral to procedure
Lysis of Adhesions	Release Site: Bowel (Duodenum, Jejunum, Ileum), Colon (Ascending, Transverse, Descending, Sigmoid), Peritoneum, Organs
Malnutrition	Type: Mild, Moderate, Severe, Protein Calorie Malnutrition
Neoplasms	Type: Malignant, Benign, CA in situ, Uncertain or Unspecified Behavior Location: Primary Site, Secondary Site(s)
Obesity with BMI	Obesity is always clinically significant Morbid obesity defined as BMI \geq 40
Pathology	Morphology: You may append the DC summary when Pathology Report is finalized after patient discharge
Sepsis	Etiology: Link to source of infection: Vascular grafts, Devices, Implants, Infection (Pneumonia, UTI, Peritonitis, etc.) Organism: Organism, if known
Shock	Type: Hemorrhagic, Septic, Cardiogenic, Liver, Hypovolemic, Other
Tobacco	Usage: Use, Abuse, Dependence, Exposure, Frequency
Ulcers	Type: Decubitus, Ischemic, DM, Stasis Location: Upper back, ankle, sacral, buttock, etc. Stage: Decubitus only (stage 1-4 or unstageable) Present on Admission

Reference(s):

<http://www.nhrmc.org/body.cfm?id=6083&action=tree>