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Coding “History of” in Medical Record

DOCUMENTATION AND CODING

In ICD-10-CM code guidelines and instructions, “history of” means the patient no longer has the condition and the diagnosis generally indexes to a Z code, which is rarely included in the hierarchical condition category models.*

History Z code definition

Personal history codes explain a patient’s past medical conditions that:

- No longer exist.
- Are not receiving any treatment.
- Have the potential for recurrence and may require continued monitoring.
- Personal history codes may be used in conjunction with follow-up codes.

Family history codes can be used:

- When a patient’s family member has/had a particular disease that causes the patient to be at higher risk of contracting that disease.
- In conjunction with screening codes to explain the need for a test or procedure.

Include in medical record

“History of” statements documented in the encounter in the format of chief complaint (CC) or history of present illness (HPI), shouldn’t be handled in the same manner as past medical history lists. Such statements found within the medical record under the CC or HPI sections establish the reason for the visit by including “history of” items as part of the review in the encounter.

- Conditions documented as “history of” that aren’t noted in HPI or CC require additional documentation, which must include the following to correctly capture HCC diagnoses:
 - Current documentation using the M.E.A.T concept: active management, evaluation, assessment, or treatment, such as medication, diagnostic or lab work, or assessment.
 - Clearly documented on the correct date of service as being reviewed and has impacted the care and management of the patient on the date of service in question.

Coding information

History Z codes are acceptable on any medical record regardless of the reason for the visit.

ICD-10-CM code	Description
Z80	Family history of primary malignant neoplasm
Z81	Family history of mental and behavioral disorders
Z82	Family history of certain disabilities and chronic diseases (leading to disablement)
Z83	Family history of other specific disorders
Z84	Family history of other conditions
Z85	Personal history of malignant neoplasm
Z86	Personal history of certain other diseases
Z87	Personal history of other diseases and conditions
Z91.4	Personal history of psychological trauma, not elsewhere classified
Z91.5	Personal history of self-harm
Z91.81	History of falling
Z92	Personal history of medical treatment, except Z92.0 - personal history of contraception

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