

Commercial	Exchange	Medicare
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Dementia

DOCUMENTATION AND CODING

Dementia is a syndrome characterized by a decline in cognitive function. According to the Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia, accounting for an estimated 60-80% of cases.¹

Include in medical record

When documenting dementia to the highest level of specificity, include:

- Type: senile or vascular
- Underlying condition: sequela of cerebrovascular disease
- Behavioral disturbance presence: restlessness, rocking, pacing, anger, violence, or hallucinations

Coding information

Coding vascular dementia:

ICD-10-CM code ²	Condition
F01.5-	Unspecified severity
F01.A-	Mild
F01.B-	Moderate
F01.C-	Severe

Coding dementia in other diseases classified elsewhere:

ICD-10-CM code	Condition
F02.8-	Unspecified severity
F02.A-	Mild
F02.B-	Moderate
F02.C-	Severe

Coding unspecified dementia:

ICD-10-CM code	Condition
F03.9-	Unspecified severity
F03.A-	Mild
F03.B-	Moderate
F03.C-	Severe

Add fifth or sixth character:

0 = Without behavioral disturbance, psychotic disturbance, mood disturbance and anxiety.

2 = With psychotic disturbance, such as hallucinations, paranoia, or suspiciousness.

3 = With mood disturbance, such as depression.

4 = With anxiety.

11 = With agitation, such as shouting, restlessness, or violence.

18 = With other behavioral disturbances, such as sleep disturbance or social disinhibition.

Some examples of other diseases with dementia – not exhaustive.

Condition	
HIV/AIDS	Diabetes with complications
Disorders of sphingolipid metabolism & other lipid storage disorders	Systemic atrophies primarily affecting central nervous system
Alzheimer's disease	Alcoholic dementia
Hydrocephalus	Multiple sclerosis
Huntington's disease	Parkinson's disease

¹Alzheimer's Association. Quick facts. 2026. [Alzheimer's Facts and Figures Report | Alzheimer's Association](#).

²ICD-10-CM, created by the National Center for Health Statistics, under authorization of the World Health Organization (WHO) -copyright 2026. All rights reserved.

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