

ICD-9 Code Format

Source:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/icd-10-codes/icd-9-cm-diagnosis-procedure-codes-abbreviated-and-full-code-titles>

ICD-9-CM codes follow a structured format depending on whether they are **diagnosis codes** or **procedure codes**.

two special categories include **letters**:

- **V-Codes (V01-V89)** → **Factors influencing health status & preventive care**
- **E-Codes (E800-E999)** → **External causes of injury & poisoning**

ICD-9 Diagnosis Code Format (001-999)

- **3 to 5 digits long**
- **First three digits** → Indicate the **disease category**
- **Decimal point** → Separates main category from subcategory
- **Fourth and fifth digits** → Provide more **specific details**

Format	Example	Description
XXX	486	Pneumonia, unspecified
XXX.X	250.0	Diabetes mellitus without complications
XXX.XX	250.02	Diabetes mellitus, uncontrolled

ICD-9 Code Categories and Their Meanings

ICD-9 Code Range	Category	Example
001–139	Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	034.0 (Strep Throat)
140–239	Neoplasms (Cancer/Tumors)	174.9 (Malignant Neoplasm of Breast)

240–279	Endocrine, Nutritional, and Metabolic Diseases	250.00 (Diabetes Mellitus without complications)
280–289	Diseases of the Blood	285.9 (Anemia, Unspecified)
290–319	Mental Disorders	296.2 (Major Depressive Disorder, Single Episode)
320–389	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	331.0 (Alzheimer’s Disease)
390–459	Diseases of the Circulatory System	401.9 (Hypertension, Unspecified)
460–519	Diseases of the Respiratory System	493.90 (Asthma, Unspecified)
520–579	Diseases of the Digestive System	530.81 (GERD - Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease)
580–629	Diseases of the Genitourinary System	585.9 (Chronic Kidney Disease, Unspecified)
630–679	Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium	644.21 (Early Onset of Labor, Delivered)
680–709	Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue	692.9 (Contact Dermatitis, Unspecified Cause)
710–739	Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System	715.90 (Osteoarthritis, Unspecified Site)
740–759	Congenital Anomalies (Birth Defects)	755.6 (Polydactyly - Extra Fingers or Toes)
780–799	Symptoms, Signs, and Ill-Defined Conditions	784.0 (Headache, Unspecified)
800–999	Injury and Poisoning	850.0 (Concussion with No Loss of Consciousness)

ICD-9 Procedure Code Format (00.00 - 99.99)

- **Used for: Medical and surgical procedures** performed in hospitals (mainly for inpatient cases).
- **Structure:**
 - **Two-digit category code (XX)** → Broad procedure category.
 - **Decimal point** → Separates the main category from specific details.
 - **Third and fourth digits (XX.XX)** → Provide further procedure specificity.

Breakdown of ICD-9 Procedure Code Format

Format	Example	Meaning
XX	81	General joint replacement
XX.X	44.4	Endoscopic procedures on the stomach
XX.XX	81.51	Total knee replacement

ICD-9 Procedure Code Categories

ICD-9 procedure codes are grouped into categories based on the type of procedure:

ICD-9 Code Range	Category	Example Code & Description
00-00.99	Miscellaneous Diagnostic & Therapeutic Procedures	00.31 - Therapeutic ultrasound
01-05.99	Procedures on the Nervous System	01.23 - Brain biopsy
06-07.99	Procedures on the Endocrine System	06.2 - Thyroidectomy
08-16.99	Procedures on the Eye & Ear	08.20 - Cataract extraction
17-20.99	Operations on the Cardiovascular System	36.01 - Single-vessel coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)
21-29.99	Operations on the Respiratory System	21.31 - Laryngoscopy
30-34.99	Operations on the Digestive System	44.43 - Endoscopic control of gastric hemorrhage
35-39.99	Cardiovascular Procedures	37.94 - Implantation of cardiac defibrillator
40-41.99	Procedures on the Lymphatic & Hemic System	41.5 - Splenectomy
42-54.99	Procedures on the Digestive System	45.23 - Colonoscopy with polypectomy
55-59.99	Procedures on the Urinary System	56.0 - Kidney transplant

60-64.99	Procedures on the Male Genital Organs	60.29 - Prostatectomy
65-71.99	Procedures on the Female Genital Organs	68.4 - Hysterectomy
72-75.99	Obstetric & Gynecological Procedures	74.1 - Low transverse cesarean section
76-84.99	Orthopedic Procedures	81.51 - Total knee replacement
85-86.99	Operations on the Breast and Skin	85.20 - Mastectomy, not otherwise specified
87-99.99	Radiology, Physical Therapy, and Other Miscellaneous Procedures	93.83 - Physical therapy exercises