

Coding Talk...

To Code or Not To Code

Diagnosis of the Month...

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis codes I10-I16.x

Hypertension

Types of hypertension are specified to include:

- Accelerated
- Benign
- Malignant
- Hypertensive urgency
- Hypertensive emergency
- Hypertensive crisis
- Hypertensive heart disease
- Hypertensive chronic kidney disease
- Hypertensive heart and kidney disease

Organ damage associated with hypertensive emergency may include:

- Changes in mental status, such as confusion
- Bleeding into the brain (stroke)
- Heart failure
- Chest pain (unstable angina)
- Fluid in the lungs (pulmonary edema)
- Myocardial Infarction
- Aneurysm (aortic dissection)
- Eclampsia (happens during pregnancy)
- Renal – AKI

If hypertension is:

- Hypertensive urgency
- Hypertensive emergency
- Hypertensive crisis

It should be specified as such.

Clinical Indicators to support Physician/Advanced Practice Provider documentation of urgency, emergency and crisis:

- “Hypertensive urgency” is defined as having blood pressure >180/110 mm Hg, with or without symptoms like severe headache, shortness of breath and anxiety, and no end-organ involvement.
- “Hypertensive emergency” is usually symptomatic with blood pressure >180/120 mm Hg, and end-organ involvement. Possible symptoms include headache, chest pain, neurologic deficits, blurred vision, increased confusion, increased shortness of breath, seizure, swelling or edema.
- “Hypertensive crisis” is a non-specific general term for severe elevation of BP (>180mmHg systolic or >120mmHg diastolic) intended to encompass both hypertensive urgency and emergency.