

Coding Talk...

To Code or Not To Code

Patients Nutritional Diagnosis



Body Mass Index can be coded from the Nurse or Registered Dietician **however; an associated diagnosis for the BMI must be documented by the Physician/MLP.**

Physician/ MLP Reminder:

If there is a nutritional concern-order a registered dietician consult...

Specify any:

- Cachexia
- Underweight
- Obesity
- Morbid obesity
- Malnutrition-further specifying the degree as mild, moderate, severe

Document any associated conditions:

- Example for morbid obesity (Obesity hypoventilation syndrome, alveolar hypoventilation, sleep apnea, Pickwickian syndrome, diabetes, cardiac conditions).
- Example for Malnutrition (any skin breakdowns, decubitus ulcers, chronic illness).

Document treatment:

- Example- Diet/supplements/Meds--Ensure, PEG feedings, Prostat, Multivitamins, TPN

Include in the discharge summary the Nutritional diagnosis, treatment and if there was any nutritional counseling/education.