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THE
AWARDS
2020

UNIVERSITY
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Special Signs in ICD-10

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WORLD
CHANGING
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Special Signs and Symbols

- Dagger (†) and Asterisk (*)
 - Inclusion Terms
 - Exclusion Terms
 - Parenthesis ()
 - Square Brackets []
 - Colon :
 - Not Otherwise Specified (NOS)
 - Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)
 - AND in code titles
 - Point Dash
 - Additional codes
-



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- ICD-10 captures both the aetiology (cause) and the manifestation (symptoms) of a disease.
- To make this clear, a dagger (†) gives the aetiology of the disease, an asterisk (*) gives the manifestation. Often both are needed to give a proper diagnosis.
- † must always be included in the code (and must be given first), the * is optional.

Example

Tuberculosis meningitis

A17.0† Tuberculosis meningitis

G01* Meningitis in bacterial diseases classified elsewhere



Special Signs and Symbols

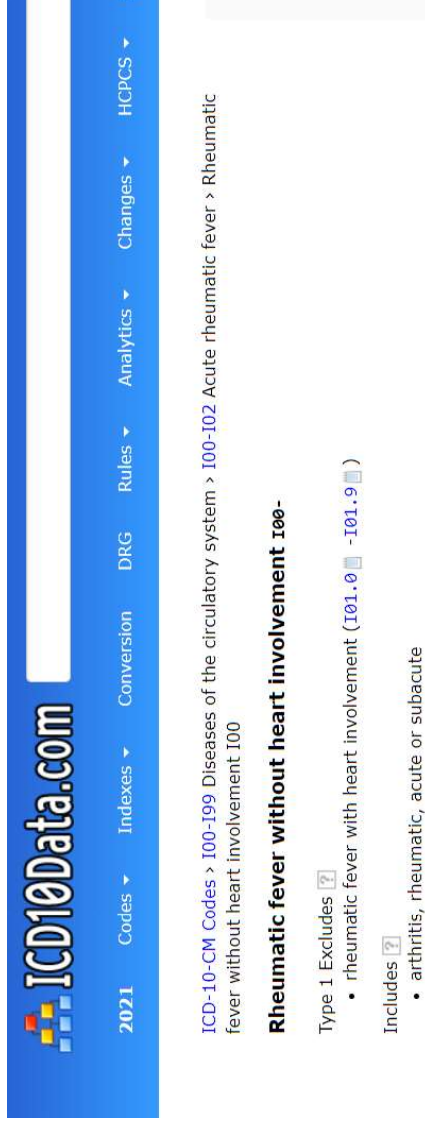
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Inclusion

- What the code includes

Exclusion

- What the code does not include (points you to another ICD-10 code)



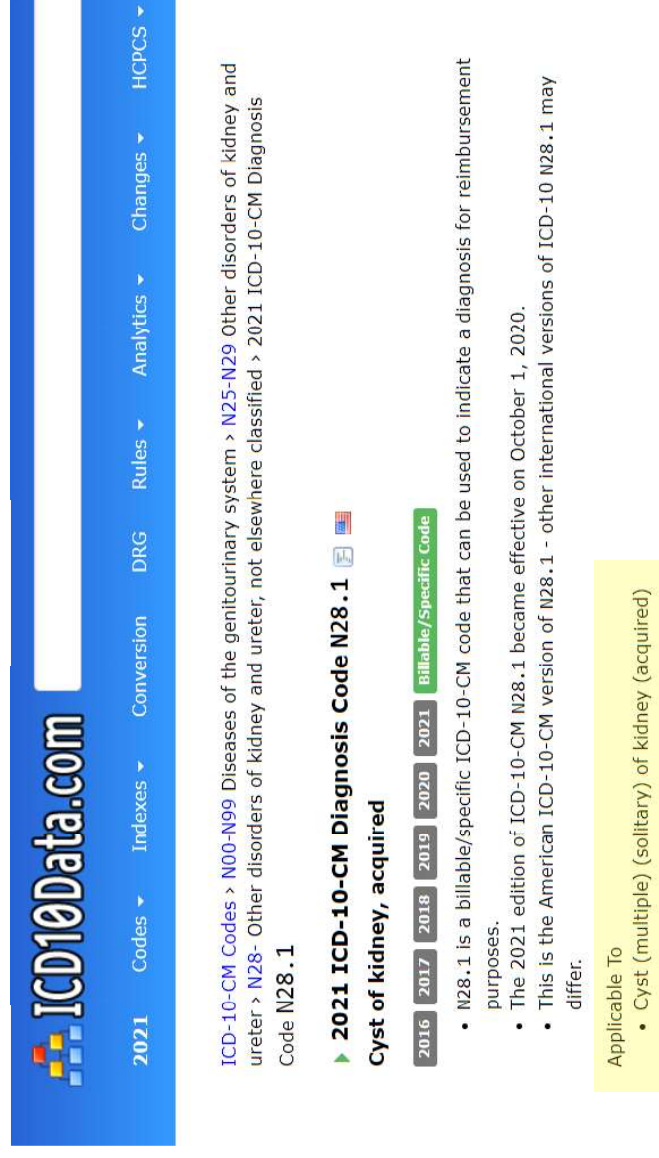
The screenshot shows the ICD10Data.com website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: 2021, Codes, Indexes, Conversion, DRG, Rules, Analytics, Changes, and HCPCS. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: ICD-10-CM Codes > I00-I99 Diseases of the circulatory system > I00-I02 Acute rheumatic fever > Rheumatic fever without heart involvement I00. The main content area displays the title **Rheumatic fever without heart involvement I00-** followed by 'Type 1 Excludes' and a list item: 'rheumatic fever with heart involvement (I01.0 -I01.9)'. Below this, the 'Includes' section lists 'arthritis, rheumatic, acute or subacute'.



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Used to give explanations or supplementary information



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Used to give synonyms or alternative names



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Used when more information is needed to be able to identify the disease completely

Example

▲	H40.12	Low-tension glaucoma
▲	H40.121	Low-tension glaucoma, right eye
▲	H40.1210 stage unspecified
▲	H40.1211 mild stage
▲	H40.1212 moderate stage
▲	H40.1213 severe stage
▲	H40.1214 indeterminate stage

H40.121 is not a 'complete code' despite using all 3 digits, more detail is needed to be able to form a complete diagnosis



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Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)

There isn't a specific enough code for this, an 'other' term

Not Otherwise Specified (NOS)

The medical record is incomplete, as yet we don't have enough information about the patient

The screenshot shows the ICD10Data.com website. The breadcrumb trail is: ICD-10-CM Codes > I00-I99 Diseases of the circulatory system > I30-I52 Other forms of heart disease > I50-Heart failure > 2021 ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code I50.9. The code I50.9 is highlighted in yellow and labeled "Heart failure, unspecified". A callout box labeled "NEC" points to the code. Another callout box labeled "NOS" points to the text "Applicable To" which lists: Cardiac, heart or myocardial failure NOS; Congestive heart disease; and Congestive heart failure NOS. The website header includes navigation links: 2021, Codes, Indexes, Conversion, DRG, Rules, Analytics, Changes, and HCPCS.



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Code applies to multiple conditions, areas of the body, etc.



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- A18.0 should not be used for reimbursement purposes as there are multiple codes below it that contain a greater level of detail.
- The 2021 edition of ICD-10-CM A18.0 became effective on October 1, 2020.
- This is the American ICD-10-CM version of A18.0 - other international versions of ICD-10 A18.0 may differ.

The following code(s) above A18.0 contain annotation back-references  that may be applicable to A18.0:

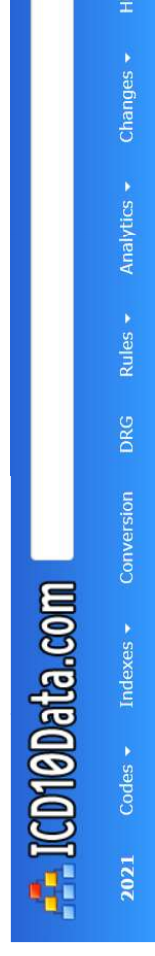
- A00-B99  Certain infectious and parasitic diseases
- A15-A19  Tuberculosis



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A more specific code is available



ICD-10-CM Codes > G00-G99 Diseases of the nervous system > G00-G09 Inflammatory diseases of the central nervous system > Meningitis due to other and unspecified causes G03

Meningitis due to other and unspecified causes G03 -

Type 1 Excludes ?

- meningoencephalitis (G04.-, -)
- meningomyelitis (G04.-, -)

Codes

- ▶ G04 Encephalitis, myelitis and encephalomyelitis
- ▶ G04.0 Acute disseminated encephalitis and encephalomyelitis (ADEM)
- ▶ G04.00 Acute disseminated encephalitis and encephalomyelitis, unspecified
- ▶ G04.01 Postinfectious acute disseminated encephalitis and encephalomyelitis (postinfectious ADEM)
- ▶ G04.02 Postimmunization acute disseminated encephalitis, myelitis and encephalomyelitis
- ▶ G04.1 Tropical spastic paraplegia
- ▶ G04.2 Bacterial meningoencephalitis and meningomyelitis, not elsewhere classified
- ▶ G04.3 Acute necrotizing hemorrhagic encephalopathy
- ▶ G04.30 unspecified
- ▶ G04.31 Postinfectious acute necrotizing hemorrhagic encephalopathy
- ▶ G04.32 Postimmunization acute necrotizing hemorrhagic encephalopathy



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There are others, although they are far less commonly used. For details, see the official ICD-10 publication and guide at:

https://www.who.int/classifications/icd/ICD-10_2nd_ed_volume2.pdf



Summary

- Description of special signs in ICD 10 coding system can be found in the second volume
- Their meaning is important to coders



References

- The ICD-9 to ICD-10 Crosswalk made Easy: ICD-10 Code Lookup
<http://www.icd10codesearch.com/>
- World Health Organisation - Classifications:
<https://www.who.int/standards/classifications>
- National Center for Health Statistics – Classification of Diseases, Functioning, and Disability
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd.htm>