



Focus on Breast Cancer

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Facts about Breast Cancer

In the United States, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer death in women. In addition, breast cancer is the leading cause of death in women ages 40 to 49 years.¹ About one in eight (12%) women in the U.S. will develop invasive breast cancer during their lifetime. The chance that breast cancer will be responsible for a woman's death is about one in 36 (about 3%). All women are at risk for developing breast cancer, and the risk increases with age. Death rates from breast cancer have been declining since about 1989, with larger decreases in women younger than 50. These decreases are believed to be the result of earlier detection through screening and increased awareness, as well as improved treatment. The American Cancer Society recommends mammography as the screening tool in most adults.²

Current Cancer vs. History of Cancer

To correctly report a diagnosis of cancer, determine whether the patient's cancer has been eradicated or is currently being treated. The neoplasm table in the ICD-9-CM code book establishes three categories of malignancy: primary, secondary and in situ. Malignant neoplasms should be coded as categorized; unknown sites (primary or secondary) must also be coded.

Current Cancer

Patients with cancer who are receiving active treatment for the condition should be reported with the malignant neoplasm code corresponding to the affected site. This applies even when a patient has had cancer surgery but is still receiving active treatment for the disease.

ICD-9-CM Coding: Breast Cancer³

- **174.8** Malignant neoplasm of other specified sites of female breast. Malignant neoplasm of contiguous or overlapping sites of breast whose point of origin cannot be determined.
- **174.9** Malignant neoplasm of breast (female), unspecified

ICD-10-CM Coding: Breast Cancer^{4,5}

- C50.811 Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of *right* female breast
- C50.812 Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of *left* female breast
- C50.819 Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of *unspecified* female breast
- C50.911 Malignant neoplasm of *unspecified* site of *right* female breast
- C50.912 Malignant neoplasm of *unspecified* site of *left* female breast
- C50.919 Malignant neoplasm of *unspecified* site of *unspecified* female breast

ICD-9-CM Coding: Breast Cancer Screening (for all female beneficiaries)³

- V76.11 Screening mammogram for high-risk patient
- V76.12 Other screening mammogram

ICD-10-CM Coding: Breast Cancer Screening (for all female beneficiaries)^{4,5}

- Z12.31 Encounter for screening mammogram for malignant neoplasm of breast

History of Cancer

Patients with a history of cancer, with no evidence of current cancer and not currently under treatment for cancer should be reported as "*Personal history of malignant neoplasm.*" These V codes require additional digits to identify the site of the cancer and should be reported only when there is no evidence of current cancer. If a patient's presenting problem, signs or symptoms may be related to the cancer history or if the cancer history (personal or family) impacts the plan of care, then report the appropriate V code and not the code for the active cancer.

ICD-9-CM Coding: History of Breast Cancer³

- V10.3 Personal history of malignant neoplasm of breast

ICD-10-CM Coding: History of Breast Cancer^{4,5}

- Z85.3 Personal history of malignant neoplasm of breast
 - Conditions classifiable to C50-

ICD-9-CM Coding: History of Mastectomy³

- V45.71 Acquired absence of breast and nipple

ICD-10-CM Coding: History of Mastectomy^{4,5}

- Z90.10 Acquired absence of *unspecified* breast and nipple
- Z90.11 Acquired absence of *right* breast and nipple
- Z90.12 Acquired absence of *left* breast and nipple
- Z90.13 Acquired absence of *bilateral* breasts and nipples

¹ Kesson EM., Allardice GM., George WD., et al. Effects of multidisciplinary team working on breast cancer survival: retrospective, comparative, interventional cohort study of 13,722 women. *BMJ* 2012; 344:e2718.

² "What Are the Key Statistics about Breast Cancer?" *American Cancer Society*. N.p., 31 Jan. 2014. Web. 15 Sept. 2014. <<http://www.cancer.org/cancer/breastcancer/detailedguide/breast-cancer-key-statistics>>.

³ *Optum ICD-9-CM for Physicians Professional 2015. Vols. 1&2*. Salt Lake City: 2014.

⁴ *Optum ICD-10-CM: The Complete Official Draft Set 2015*. Salt Lake City: 2014.

⁵ "ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting." DHHS, 2015, September 2014. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/icd10cm_guidelines_2015.pdf>.