

CHAPTER 8

DISEASES OF THE EAR AND MASTOID PROCESS (H60-H95)

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CHAPTER SPECIFIC CATEGORY CODE BLOCKS

- H60-H62 Diseases of external ear
- H65-H75 Diseases of middle ear and mastoid
- H80-H83 Diseases of inner ear
- H90-H94 Other disorders of ear
- H95 Intraoperative and postprocedural complications and disorders of ear and mastoid process, not elsewhere classified

CHAPTER NOTES

- Chapter 8 is a new chapter in ICD-10-CM and includes conditions found in the Nervous System and Sense Organs chapter of ICD-9-CM
- ICD-10-CM is more specific in identifying the effected ear.
- The guidelines specific to this chapter involve complication of care within the body system chapter specific to the organs and structure of that body system.
- The condition or disease should be sequenced first followed by a complication code in block H95.
- In ICD-10-CM you won't have a single code for unspecified outer ear infections.
- Instead, ICD-10 will differentiate between specific types of problems and the affected ear.
- Unlike in the past, physician notes will need to specify type of condition the patient has and which ear is affected.

CHAPTER NOTES (cont.)

- Use additional code for any associated perforated tympanic membrane (H72.-)
- A new guideline is found under the categories for nonsuppurative otitis media (H65) and suppurative and unspecified otitis media (H66) which instructs coding professionals to use an additional code to identify:
 - Exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (Z77.22)
 - Exposure to tobacco smoke in the perinatal period (P96.81)
 - History of tobacco use (Z87.891)
 - Occupational exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (Z57.31)
 - Tobacco dependence (F17.-)
 - Tobacco use (Z72.0)

CODING EXAMPLES

1. A five-year-old female is seen for acute ear pain. Examination reveals left acute serous otitis media. Further examination revealed a total perforated tympanic membrane of the right ear due to chronic otitis media. What diagnoses codes are assigned?

Answer:

H65.02 Otitis (acute), media (hemorrhagic) (staphylococcal) (streptococcal) acute, subacute serous – see Otitis, media, nonsuppurative, acute, serous. Otitis media, nonsuppurative, acute or subacute, serous

H66.91 Otitis (acute), media (hemorrhagic) (staphylococcal) (streptococcal), chronic

H72.821 Perforation, perforated (nontraumatic) (of), tympanum, tympanic (membrane) (persistent post-traumatic) (postinflammatory), total

CODING EXAMPLES (cont.)

Rationale to example 1:

Otitis media has an expansion of codes in ICD-10-CM to classify these conditions. Laterality is also part of the classification in ICD-10-CM. In category H65, distinction is made between recurrent infections. A note is present stating that an additional code for any associated perforated tympanic membrane should be coded separately. It is then possible to show which tympanic membrane is perforated by assigning the correct code for right side associated with the chronic otitis media. Otitis media refers to inflammation of the middle ear (area between ear drum and inner ear including the eustachian tube.) Serous otitis involves a collection of fluid that occurs in the middle ear space caused by altered eustachian tube function. This is also referred to as secretory or with effusion.

CODING EXAMPLES (cont.)

2. Assign the code for the following diagnosis: Ménière's vertigo of left ear.

Answer: H81.02 Vertigo, Ménière's – see subcategory H81.0

Rationale: The Index provides the category and the Tabular provides the specific laterality. Ménière's disease involves the inner ear and symptoms are vertigo, tinnitus, and a feeling of fullness or pressure in the ear.

CODING EXAMPLES (cont.)

3. This 50-year-old female, admitted to the hospital for surgery, has bilateral conductive hearing loss due to nonobliterative otosclerosis of the stapes at the oval window. She is unable to hear with hearing aids and has decided to undergo left stapedectomy. During the surgery an inadvertent laceration was made to the tympanic meatal flap, which was repaired. What diagnosis codes are assigned?

Answer:

H80.03 Otosclerosis (general) involving oval window, nonobliterative

H90.0 Loss (of), hearing – see also Deafness. Deafness, conductive, bilateral

H95.31 Complication(s), ear procedure, laceration – see Complications, intraoperative, puncture or laceration, ear. Complication(s) intraoperative, puncture or laceration (accidental) (unintentional) (of) ear, during procedure on ear and mastoid process

Y92.234 Index to External Causes, Place of occurrence, hospital, operating room

CODING EXAMPLES (cont.)

Rationale to example 3:

The otosclerosis is listed first since it is the underlying condition causing the hearing loss, and absent any sequencing instruction in the classification system. Note that there are intraoperative and postprocedural complications available. Subcategory H95.3 provides codes for accidental puncture and laceration of the ear and mastoid process when a procedure on the ear and mastoid process was being performed (H95.31) and for accidental puncture and laceration of ear and mastoid process during other procedures. The cause of the complication is included in the complication code H95.31; therefore, an additional external cause code is not required. A place of occurrence code, however, can be assigned.

TRAINING SOURCES

American Health Information Management Association

www.ahima.org

American Academy of Professional Coders

www.aapc.com

Audio Educator

www.audioeducator.com/otolaryngology/icd-10-for-ear-03-05-14.html