



Does COVID-19 Have an ICD-10-CM Code?

Even though the virus is new, there are codes within the current 2020 ICD-10-CM code set that you can use to document COVID-19.

Depending on the circumstances, COVID-19 can be coded with B97.29 *Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere*. Only report B97.29 for confirmed cases of COVID-19.

For a patient with a confirmed condition due to COVID-19, also assign the appropriate diagnosis code. For example, per ICD-10-CM guidelines, B97.29 should be used as an additional code if the virus is responsible for such diseases as pneumonia, classified as J12.89 *Other viral pneumonia*, or sepsis, classified as A41.89 *Other specified sepsis*.

Should a patient be determined to be infected with coronavirus associated with SARS, use B97.21 *SARS-associated coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere*. And use Z20.828 *Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases* to document an encounter with a patient infected with any form of the virus.

The CDC explains that B34.2 *Coronavirus infection, unspecified* is inappropriate because the coronavirus is a respiratory illness and, therefore, the site is not unspecified.

More recently, WHO [released](#) emergency use ICD codes for 2019-nCoV. According to WHO, "The '2019-nCoV' disease outbreak has been declared a public health emergency of international concern."

Emergency ICD-10 code U07.1 is assigned to the disease diagnosis of 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease. Note that the disease name 2019-nCoV may change to be independent of date and virus family. The ICD-11 code for the illness is RA01.0. At the time of this post, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services had not released any instructions for the use of these new codes.