

End Stage CHF I50.84

Resources: CMS, AAPC End Stage CHF

Diagnosis Overview:

End-Stage Heart Failure: is characterized by severe and often relentless symptoms.

- Symptoms can include shortness of breath, fatigue, swollen legs, rapid heartbeat, irregular heartbeat, nausea and loss of appetite, coughing and difficulty thinking

Classes of end-stage heart failure

- Class I: Symptoms are mild and don't meaningfully interfere with or limit your physical activity.
- Class II: Some limits on physical activity. You're comfortable when resting but experience symptoms during ordinary physical activity.
- Class III: Comfortable at rest, but most physical activity provokes symptoms.
- Class IV: Symptoms of heart failure even when resting.

Comorbidities: Ischemic cardiomyopathy, HTN, Diabetes, CSD, CKD, Valve disease

Risk Factors:

Medical: CAD, HTN, Diabetes, Obesity, Valvular Heart Disease, Infections, Sleep Apnea, Kidney Disease, Thyroid Disease, Cardiotoxic medications

Lifestyle: Smoking, unhealthy diet, sedentary lifestyle, excessive alcohol consumption, Recreational drugs

Documentation Tips & Examples:

Capturing specificity helps qualify for care management programs.

Active Management ("MEAT"):

Monitor

- Symptoms
- Disease progression/regression
- Ordering tests

Evaluate

- Test results
- Medication effectiveness
- Response to treatment
- Exam finding

Assess/Address

- Review records
- Counseling
- Documenting status

Treat

- Prescribe/continue medication/stopping
- Surgical/other interventions
- Referral to a specialist

Common Pitfalls:

- Nonspecific diagnosis
- Documentation and reported ICD-10 codes do not match
- Not enough information to indicate active assessment/management
- Not linking data/medications to the relevant condition in the assessment/plan.
- Not addressing both conditions when a single ICD-10 code represents a condition and its complication/manifestation (such as DM with CKD)
- Inappropriately coding acute conditions as chronic

Documentation: End Stage Diastolic CHF chronic, compensated, c/o SOB with activities, BLE throughout the day, daily weights stable around 175lb – continue Lasix, follow-up in 1 month

Code both End stage and Chronic Diastolic I50.32 & I50.84

Pearls:

Code all documented conditions present at the time of the encounter that require or affect patient care, treatment or management. This includes stable chronic conditions and comorbidities. Include the ICD-10 coded to the highest specificity.