

Severe Obesity (E66.01)

Resources: (1) NHLBI/NIH The Practical Guide: Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults; (2) Up to Date, Overweight and obesity in adults: health consequences; (3) Executive Summary of the Clinical Guidelines on the Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults, Arch Intern Med 1998;158:1855-1867; (4) Up to Date, Bariatric operations for management of obesity: Indications and preoperative preparation; (5) CMS, Article - Billing and Coding: Bariatric Surgery for treatment of co-morbidities conditions related to morbid obesity (A54923); (6) Mechanick JL et al. Clinical practice guidelines for the perioperative nutrition, metabolic, and nonsurgical support of patients undergoing bariatric procedures - 2019 update. Surg Obes Relat Dis 2020;16(2):175-247

Diagnosis Overview:

Severe obesity (E66.01) may be recommended for consideration when:

- BMI ≥ 40 kg/m² **OR**
- BMI 35-39.9 kg/m² with at least one serious co-morbid condition that is due to or worsened by the obesity.

Diagnosis Types | Classes:

New E-Codes	Obesity Severity	BMI Range (kg/m ²)
E66.811	Class 1 Severe Obesity	30 to less than 35
E66.812	Class 2 Severe Obesity	35 to less than 40
E66.813	Class 3 Severe Obesity	40 or greater

Risk Factors and Symptoms: Examples of serious comorbid conditions:

Cardiovascular	Respiratory	Endo/metabolic	Gastrointestinal	Neurologic	Urologic	Musculoskeletal
Poorly controlled hypertension	Asthma	Insulin Resistance / Prediabetes	Gallstones	Hypersomnia	Severe stress incontinence	Debilitating osteoarthritis (hip, shoulder, ankle)
Established coronary heart disease	Sleep apnea	Type 2 diabetes	Uncontrolled GERD	Insomnia		
Other atherosclerotic disease	Obesity hypoventilation syndrome	Hyperlipidemia	NAFLD/NASH	Idiopathic intracranial hypertension		Spinal disease (disc degeneration, discitis, dorsopathies)
Severe venous stasis disease	Pickwickian syndrome	Metabolic syndrome				
	Pulmonary hypertension					

Documentation Tips & Examples:

obesity Browse Reference List

Diagnoses

Name	ICD-10 Codes	MCC	CC	HCC
Obesity	E66.9	No	No	
Obesity (BMI 30-39.9)	E66.9	No	No	

Obesity type due to excess calories drug-induced with alveolar hypoventilation due to disruption of MC4R pathway

Obesity classification adult class 1 (BMI 30 - 34.9) adult class 2 (BMI 35 - 39.9) adult class 3 (BMI ≥ 40) pediatric obesity

Serious obesity comorbidity presence with serious comorbidity without serious comorbidity

Body mass index BMI 30.0-30.9 BMI 31.0-31.9 BMI 32.0-32.9 BMI 33.0-33.9 BMI 34.0-34.9 BMI 35.0-35.9 BMI 36.0-36.9 BMI 37.0-37.9 BMI 38.0-38.9 BMI 39.0-39.9 BMI 40.0-44.9
BMI 45.0-49.9 BMI 50.0-59.9 BMI 60.0-69.9 BMI 70 or greater BMI 95th percentile to < 120% of 95th percentile for age
BMI 120% of 95th percentile to < 140% of 95th percentile for age BMI $\geq 140\%$ of 95th percentile for age

Pearls:

- Use the appropriate E-code together with the appropriate Z-code for corresponding BMI
- To increase the accuracy of coding and to support available treatment options for adults with obesity, use both the appropriate E-codes together with the appropriate Z-codes for corresponding body mass index (BMI) in visit documentation. This can easily be achieved by searching "obesity" in EPIC and choosing specificity from the dropdown menus as shown in the screenshot above
- You must include the co-morbid conditions that are related to the obesity in your documentation when the BMI is 35-40.