

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD

ARTHRITIS

Documentation Considerations

- **Document laterality and extremity (right, left, upper, lower)**
- **Document affected anatomic sites (knee, hip, shoulder, wrist, etc.)**
- **Identify type (Primary, Secondary, Post-Traumatic, Rheumatoid, Seronegative, Reiter, Psoriatic, Septic, Gout, Pseudogout)**
- **Note severity (mild, moderate, severe)**

Diagnosis Considerations

- **Distinguish appropriate code when either single site or multiple sites (mono versus poly)**
- **For Rheumatoid Arthritis document rheumatoid factor , i.e. with or without RA antibody**
- **Note any underlying or associated diagnoses or conditions**

Additional Considerations

- **Clearly state the causal relationship of secondary or post-traumatic arthritis**
- **Document the efficacy of current treatment regimen**
- **Document other organ involvement**



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