

# DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD

## ARTIFICIAL OPENINGS (OSTOMIES)

### *Documentation Considerations*

- Surgical history alone may not support active ostomy
- Document assessment of opening in physical exam
- Note any surgical reversal with date
- Document physical presence of a catheter or stoma

### *Diagnosis Considerations*

- If surgical reversal has occurred, it is no longer coded as active
- “Status of”: artificial opening is present and free of any issues
- “Attention to”: adjustment, repositioning, replacement or closure
- “Complications of”: infection or obstruction

### *Additional Considerations*

- Note any complications with ostomy site
- Document if any adjustment, modification or replacement of the catheter occurs at the visit
- Note the functional status or any malfunction of artificial opening



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