

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD

EMBOLISM AND THROMBOSIS

Documentation Considerations

- Specify acute versus chronic
- Document anatomic location and laterality
- Acute embolism/ thrombosis = new thrombosis that requires initiation of anticoagulant therapy if indicated
- Chronic embolism/ thrombosis = has not resolved and requires continuation of anticoagulation therapy

Diagnosis Considerations

- Assign diagnosis code to highest specificity and for correct anatomic location
- If both DVT and thrombophlebitis exist, document and code for both
- Recurrent DVT/PE is not synonymous with chronic

Additional Considerations

- No specific coding guidance exists for timeframe to define acute embolism/thrombosis
- Documenting date of onset assists in establishing timelines
- Acute PE unlikely in outpatient setting (expected on hospital record)

NOTE: This tool is intended to assist with documentation only and is not intended to take the place of clinical analysis. Information regarding any law or regulation does not constitute legal or tax advice and is subject to change based upon the issuance of new guidance and/or change in laws or regulations. Reference Official ICD-10-CM coding guidelines and manuals or electronic medical coding software for accurate ICD-10-CM codes and specificity.



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