

Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolism (PE) Diagnosis documentation

To capture the full disease burden of a patient’s cardiac condition, follow the documentation guidelines below, as applicable.

Specified thrombosis guidelines:

- **Acute:** A new and often symptomatic thrombosis is found, and the patient is starting anticoagulation therapy.
- **Chronic:** Old or established thrombosis which requires ongoing anticoagulation therapy.
- **Historical:** Patient no longer has thrombosis but is taking anticoagulation therapy prophylactically.

Anticoagulant therapy time frames:

- **Initial anti-coagulation:** Typically, within the first 10-day period.
- **Long-term anti-coagulation:** Typically, within 3-6 months. *Occasionally, 12 months.*
- **Extended anti-coagulation:** Administered indefinitely.

Do document: 'Acute' v 'chronic' v 'history of	Do document: New onset symptoms or referral for diagnosis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document 'acute' only on the encounter when this is first diagnosed. • Document 'chronic' if swelling or edema symptoms persist. • Document 'history of' if anticoagulation is for prophylaxis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For coding and documentation purposes, 'Acute DVT/PE' is a part of the initial diagnosis and treatment plan only. • Subsequent visit documentation should address thrombosis as chronic.
Do document: Laterality and/or vessels or extremities involved	Do document: Therapy plan for management and risk factors associated with therapy or a treatment plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples: Femoral, iliac, tibial, right. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples: Malignancy, pregnancy, heparin induced thrombocytopenia, etc.

Note: Make sure to update the patient’s problem list with changes in acuity.

**ICD10 Coding guidelines rely on provider documentation for clarification to support the acuity of active disease. There is no specific timeframe that distinguishes acute from chronic DVT/PE.*

References:

1. Sheri Poe Bernard Ccs-P. CDEO CPC CRC. Risk Adjustment Documentation & Coding, 2nd Edition. American Medical Association Press, pp.290-291.
2. Hull, Russell D., and Gregory YH. Lip. Edited by Jess Mandel, James D. Douketis, Geraldine Finlay and Wolters Kluwer (June 2023). Venous thromboembolism: Anticoagulation after initial management. *Up to Date*. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/venous-thromboembolism-anticoagulation-after-initial-management>.
3. Schick, Michael A., and Luigi Pacifico (2022). Deep Vein Thrombosis of the Lower Extremity. *StatPearlsPublishing LLC*. ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK470381.