

Vascular disease documentation

To capture the patient's full disease burden related to vascular conditions follow the documentation guidelines below, as applicable.

Do document vascular disease

- **Include site, severity, and any complications**
 - *Example:* Infrarenal abdominal aortic aneurysm without rupture
 - Include size and description, when able
 - Indicate whether rupture of the aneurysm has occurred and with which vessels
- **Pseudoaneurysm**
 - Include vessel specificity, description, size, as able.
 - Pseudoaneurysm will code to aneurysm
- **Aortic Ectasia with vessel and description**

Do document embolism and thrombosis

Review other tips for thrombus documentation in DVT/PE tip sheet.

Document, as applicable:

- Vessel impacted by thrombus or emboli including laterality,
- Post-thrombotic syndrome (PTS), as applicable.
- PTS related ulcers with staging, as applicable.
- Acute or chronic state of thrombus or emboli.
- With or without cor pulmonale, acute or chronic as applicable.
- Example: acute pulmonary emboli without cor pulmonale

Do document varicose veins

- **Include vessels, dilation, associated symptoms, presence of any ulcers and treatment**
 - *Ex:* Asymptomatic varicose veins without ulceration

Do document atherosclerosis/arteriosclerosis

- *Ex:* Atherosclerosis due to diabetes mellitus
- Document if it should **not** be linked.

Do document specificities pertaining to atherosclerosis/arteriosclerosis:

- Type of vessel: Native or graft
- If graft, identify as:
 - Autologous
 - Non autologous biological
 - Non autologous nonbiological
- Right, left, or bilateral disease
- Site of any complication factor:
 - Intermittent claudication
 - Rest pain, with chronic ischemia
 - Ulceration (identify specific site and ulcer depth)
 - Gangrene
 - Document the most severe state of disease

Do document tobacco status

Examples:

- Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, uncomplicated
- Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, in remission
- Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, with other nicotine-induced disorders
- Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, with unspecified nicotine-induced disorders

For information on the [V28 Medicare Risk Adjustment](#), stream our webinar on-demand.

References:

1. ICD-9-CM Coding Clinic, Fourth Quarter 2010 Pages: 84-85 Effective with discharges: October 1, 2010
2. Bernard, Sheri Poe. 2020. *Risk Adjustment Documentation & Coding* (pp. 288-291). American Medical Association.
3. Prescott, L, Manz, J., Reiter, A. (2023). *2023 ACDIS Outpatient Pocket Guide The essential CDI Resource for Outpatient Professionals* (pp. 376-386).: HCPro, a Simplify Compliance Brand.