

RECAPTURE CHRONIC HCC CODES 2020

Background

The Medicare Shared Saving Program, Medicare Advantage Plans, Commercial plans and Medicaid risk adjust patient populations using Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCCs) or similar risk-adjustment methodologies. In value-based care, shared savings or losses are based on financial performance compared to a benchmark which is risk-adjusted using this methodology. Proper documentation and accurate coding of your patients' medical conditions is essential for optimal financial performance.

Chronic HCCs

For 2020 there are 86 HCCs used to determine a patient's risk adjustment factor (RAF) score. The RAF score is made up from a patient's HCCs and demographic data including their age, gender, zip code, disability status and Medicaid eligibility.

68 of the HCCs identify chronic conditions that need to be documented in the medical record and have the associated ICD-10 codes submitted each year to count towards the patient's overall risk score. If a code for a patient's condition is not submitted each year, that condition is not included in the patient's risk calculation even if it is a chronic ongoing medical issue.

Risk adjustment resets each calendar year, so each chronic condition associated with an HCC needs to be re-documented and coded each calendar year.

Example

A patient with major depression treated with an SSRI, type 2 diabetes with proteinuria, and an BMI of 42 is seen for follow-up of diabetes. His mood is doing well on the medication. His A1c and urine for microalbumin are drawn and a code of E11.9 (Type 2 diabetes without complications) is associated with the lab orders His HCC weighting would be 0.105 for the diabetes. (HCC19).

Optimal coding would include the major depression (HCC 59) with a weight of 0.309, morbid obesity (HCC22) with a weight of 0.250 and type 2 diabetes with chronic complications HCC 18 (because of the proteinuria) with a weight of 0.302. The correct HCC weighting is $0.309+0.250+0.302=0.861$. This correct coding would result an increase of \$7258 to the annual budget for this patients care.

The following table lists the 68 chronic HCCs that are associated with ongoing chronic medical conditions and their assigned weight in the overall risk adjustment factor (RAF) calculation.

Chronic HCCs

HCC	HCC Description	Weight
1	HIV/AIDS	0.335
8	Metastatic Cancer and Acute Leukemia	2.659
9	Lung and Other Severe Cancers	1.024
10	Lymphoma and Other Cancers	0.675
11	Colorectal, Bladder, and Other Cancers	0.307
12	Breast, Prostate, and Other Cancers and Tumors	0.150
17	Diabetes with Acute Complications	0.302
18	Diabetes with Chronic Complications	0.302
19	Diabetes without Complication	0.105
22	Morbid Obesity	0.250
23	Other Significant Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders	0.194
27	End-Stage Liver Disease	0.882
28	Cirrhosis of Liver	0.363
29	Chronic Hepatitis	0.147
34	Chronic Pancreatitis	0.287
35	Inflammatory Bowel Disease	0.308
40	Rheumatoid Arthritis and Inflammatory Connective Tissue Disease	0.421
46	Severe Hematological Disorders	1.372
47	Disorders of Immunity	0.665
48	Coagulation Defects and Other Specified Hematological Disorders	0.192
51	Dementia with complications (New for 2020)	0.346
52	Dementia without Complications (new for 2020)	0.346
54	Substance Use with Psychotic Complications	0.329
55	Substance Use Disorder, Moderate/Severe, or Substance Use with Complications	0.329
56	Substance Use Disorder, Mild, Except Alcohol and Cannabis	0.329
57	Schizophrenia	0.524
58	Reactive and Unspecified Psychosis	0.393
59	Major Depressive, Bipolar, and Paranoid Disorders	0.309

Chronic HCCs

HCC	HCC Description	Weight
60	Personality Disorders	0.309
70	Quadriplegia	1.242
71	Paraplegia	1.068
72	Spinal Cord Disorders/Injuries	0.481
73	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Other Motor Neuron Disease	0.999
74	Cerebral Palsy	0.339
75	Myasthenia Gravis, Guillain-Barre Syndrome/ Inflammatory and Toxic Neuropathy	0.472
76	Muscular Dystrophy	0.518
77	Multiple Sclerosis	0.423
78	Parkinson's and Huntington's Diseases	0.606
79	Seizure Disorders and Convulsions	0.220
80	Coma, Brain Compression/Anoxic Damage	0.486
82	Respirator Dependence/Tracheostomy Status	1.000
85	Congestive Heart Failure	0.331
86	Unstable Angina and Other Acute Ischemic Heart Disease	0.195
87	Acute Myocardial Infarction	0.195
88	Angina Pectoris	0.135
96	Specified Heart Arrhythmias	0.268
99	Intracranial Hemorrhage	0.230
100	Ischemic or Unspecified Stroke	0.230
103	Hemiplegia/Hemiparesis	0.437
104	Monoplegia, Other Paralytic Syndromes	0.331
106	Atherosclerosis of the Extremities with Ulceration or Gangrene	1.488
108	Vascular Disease	0.288
110	Cystic Fibrosis	0.510
111	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	0.335
112	Fibrosis of Lung and Other Chronic Lung Disorders	0.219
122	Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy and Vitreous Hemorrhage	0.222

Chronic HCCs

HCC	HCC Description	Weight
124	Exudative Macular Degeneration	0.521
134	Dialysis Status	0.435
136	Chronic Kidney Disease, (Stage 5)	0.289
137	Chronic Kidney Disease, Severe (Stage 4)	0.289
138	Chronic Kidney Disease, Moderate (Stage 3)	0.069
157	Pressure Ulcer of Skin with Necrosis Through to Muscle, Tendon, or Bone	2.028
158	Pressure Ulcer of Skin with Full Thickness Skin Loss	1.069
159	Pressure Ulcer of Skin with Partial Thickness Skin Loss (new for 2020)	0.656
161	Chronic Ulcer of Skin, Except Pressure	0.515
186	Major Organ Transplant or Replacement Status	0.832
188	Artificial Openings for Feeding or Elimination	0.534
189	Amputation Status, Lower Limb/Amputation Complications	0.519

TIPS

Review the patient's active problem list to identify chronic conditions associated with HCCs that should be resubmitted.

Avoid using the words "history of" in the progress note for a condition that is chronic but currently stable—such as COPD, Heart Failure or Cirrhosis

If discontinuing treatment (e.g. a medication or pacemaker) for any diagnosed condition would cause that condition to relapse then the condition should be coded and its management documented.

Remember that each coded condition requires documentation in the patient's medical record that the conditions was either:

Managed

Evaluated

Assessed or

Treated

Code to the highest specificity to accurately capture the disease severity burden. Some examples:

CKD:

- o Unspecified, Stage 1 or 2 = no HCC
- o Stage 3 = HCC 138
- o Stage 4 = HCC 137
- o Stage 5, ESRD = HCC 136

Obesity:

- o Obesity = no HCC
- o Morbid obesity = HCC 22
- o BMI \geq 40 = HCC 22

Depression:

- o Major depressive disorder, single episode, unspecified = no HCC
- o Major depressive disorder, single episode, mild =HCC 59