

## Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

At Healthfirst, we are committed to helping providers accurately document and code their patients' health records. This tip sheet is intended to assist providers and coding staff with the documentation and ICD-10-CM selection of services submitted to Healthfirst specifically for common types of **Chronic Kidney Disease**. It provides information from industry sources about proper coding practice. This document does not represent or guarantee that Healthfirst will cover and/or pay for the services outlined. Coverage decisions are based on the terms of the applicable evidence of coverage and the provider's participation agreement. This includes the determination of any amount that Healthfirst or the member owes the provider.

### ICD-10 Codes and Descriptions

<b>CKD, Stage 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.1</li> <li>• GFR <math>\geq</math> 90</li> </ul>
<b>CKD, Stage 2 (Mild)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.2 (GFR 60-89)</li> </ul>
<b>CKD, Stage 3 (Moderate)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.30 - CKD Stage 3 Unspecified</li> <li>• N18.31 - CKD Stage 3a GFR 45-59</li> <li>• N18.32 - CKD Stage 3b GFR 30-44</li> </ul>
<b>CKD, Stage 4 (Severe)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.4 (GFR 15-29)</li> </ul>
<b>CKD, Stage 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.5 (GFR &lt; 15)</li> </ul>
<b>End Stage Renal Disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N18.6</li> <li>• On Dialysis</li> </ul>
<b>Dependence on Renal Dialysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Z99.2</li> </ul>

# Documentation and Coding

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## Coding Tips

- CKD, Stage 5 states if CKD requires dialysis, report it as ESRD.
- ESRD includes requiring Chronic Dialysis, add code to identify Dialysis Status (**Z99.2**).
- If both stages of CKD & ESRD are documented, assign only **N18.6**.
- Physicians should document the condition to the highest level of specificity. When stage is not documented in the chart, assign code **N18.9** and/or:
  - Chronic uremia NOS
  - Diffuse sclerosing glomerulonephritis NOS
  - Chronic renal insufficiency
  - Chronic Renal Failure NOS
- CKD with complications:
  - Hypertension (**I12.0, I12.9**)
  - Diabetes (**E10.22** – Type I DM, **E11.22** – Type 2 DM)
- Document the specific stage of CKD. (Do not calculate stage of CKD based on GFR or lab values.)
- Updated status of CKD (stable, improved, and/or worsening).
- For category **N18\***- Chronic Kidney Disease Use Additional Code, If applicable, to identify:
  - Associated cachexia (**E88.A**)
  - Kidney transplant status (**Z94.0**)

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## CKD and Associated Conditions

When no other cause is specified, ICD-10-CM presumes a cause-and-effect relationship using linking terms, such as “with,” “due to,” “secondary to,” “associated with,” “related to,” etc. and use terms such as “Hypertensive” or “Diabetic”.

- e.g., Diabetic and hypertensive CKD, Stage 4

Hypertension and CKD	Hypertension, Heart Disease, and CKD	Diabetes and CKD	Hypertension, Diabetes, and CKD
Assign code from Category I12 when both Hypertension and CKD are present (unless the documentation indicates hypertension is not cause of CKD).	Assign code from Category I13 when documentation supports both Hypertensive Heart Disease and Hypertensive Kidney Disease.	When both Diabetes and CKD are supported, code these conditions as related unless the documentation clearly indicates the conditions are unrelated.	When CKD, Hypertension, and Diabetes Mellitus (DM) are supported and there is no cause- and effect linkage among any combination of the three, code both Hypertensive CKD and Diabetic CKD.
Add code for stage of CKD.	Add code for stage of CKD.	Add code for stage of CKD.	Add code for stage of CKD.
If patients have hypertensive CKD and Acute Renal Failure (ARF), add additional code for ARF.		If Heart Failure is present, add code from Category I50.	
<p>Please Note:</p> <p>Do not document past/resolved CKD as if it is current when the condition is historical and no longer exists as a current problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• e.g., History of CKD that was resolved with a Kidney Transplant</li> </ul> <p>Document a specific, concise treatment plan for CKD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Such as Dialysis Status (hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, frequency)</li> </ul>			

# Documentation and Coding

## Documentation of Dialysis Status (Z99.2) & Kidney Transplant Status (Z94.0) and Arteriovenous (AV) Fistula

Dialysis Code Examples	ICD-10-CM
Dialysis Status/Dependence on renal dialysis (or presence of an AV fistula/shunt)	Z99.2
Admission/encounter for dialysis	Z49*
Patient's noncompliance renal dialysis	Z91.15

Kidney Transplant Codes	
Kidney Transplant Status	Z94.0
Complications of Kidney Transplant	T86.1*

AV Fistula Code Examples (AV Fistula is often created for Hemodialysis for Patients with CKD)	
AV Fistula, surgically created	Z99.2
AV Fistula, acquired (due to disease or trauma)	I77.0
AV Fistula, Congenital	Q24*- Q28*
AV Fistula, Complication	T82.9*

\*Requires an additional digit to complete diagnosis code.

# Documentation and Coding

## Coding Examples

<b>Case 1</b>	CKD Stage 5 on chronic routine hemodialysis M, W, F
<b>ICD-10-CM</b>	N18.6 ESRD Z99.2 Dependence on Renal Dialysis (AV Fistula, surgically created is inclusive in this code).
<b>ICD-10-CM Official Guideline</b>	CKD, Stage 5 (N18.5) has Exclude1 notes that state if CKD requires dialysis, reports it as ESRD (N18.6) and uses an additional code to identify dialysis status (Z99.2).

<b>Case 2</b>	I) Type 2 DM; II) CKD Stage 4
<b>ICD-10-CM</b>	E11.22 Type 2 DM with Diabetic CKD N18.4 CKD, Stage 4
<b>ICD-10-CM Official Guideline</b>	Documentation does not link Type 2 Diabetes to Stage 4 CKD. However, ICD-10-CM presumes the linkage when no other cause is documented.

<b>Case 3</b>	I) Acute Kidney Injury; II) CKD Stage 2
<b>ICD-10-CM</b>	N17.9 Acute Kidney Failure (AKF) Unspecified N18.2 CKD, Stage 2
<b>ICD-10-CM Official Guideline</b>	For patients with both ARF and CKD, both conditions should also be coded. Sequence according to the circumstances of the admission/encounter.

# Documentation and Coding

<b>Case 4</b>	A patient with a history of a kidney transplant presents with ARF due to dehydration. Is acute renal failure always considered a complication of the kidney transplant?
<b>ICD-10-CM</b>	T86.19 Other complications of kidney transplant N17.9 AKF, unspecified, E86.0 Dehydration
<b>AHA Coding Clinic (Volume 6 Second Quarter 2019)</b>	Assign codes T86.19, Other complication of kidney transplant; N17.9, AKF, unspecified; and E86.0, Dehydration, to capture the effect on the transplanted kidney with the ARF and dehydration. Code T86.19 is assigned to capture the fact that the transplanted kidney is affected by the ARF, but the transplant itself has not failed.

<b>Case 5</b>	Anemia in CKD Stage 5
<b>ICD-10-CM</b>	N18.5 CKD, Stage 5 D63.1 Anemia in CKD
<b>ICD-10-CM Official Guideline</b>	Code first underlying CKD (N18.-) (N18-N18.9)

# Documentation and Coding

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## References

- <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2025-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines.pdf>
- <https://www.codingclinicadvisor.com/>

## Questions?

Contact us at [#Risk Adjustments and clinical Documentation@healthfirst.org](mailto:#Risk_Adjustments_and_clinical_Documentation@healthfirst.org).

For additional documentation and coding guidance, please visit the coding section on [HFproviders.org](http://HFproviders.org).

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