

Risk Adjustment Coding Corner

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Myocardial Infarction (MI)

- Documentation is extremely important when coding myocardial infarction (MI). The type of MI is only one element. The type, site, and whether it is initial or subsequent are also necessary documentation elements for code assignment.
- **Type**

Type	Description	ICD-10 Code
1	Spontaneous myocardial necrosis caused by an anatomic blockage of blood flow for a prolonged period	STEMI (I21.3) or NSTEMI (I21.4)
2	Cell death, but secondary to ischemia based on “supply-demand” mismatch	I21.A1
3	Results in sudden cardiac death	I21.A9
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4a: associated with percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) • 4b: associated with in-stent thrombosis • 4c: related to restenosis 	I21.A9
5	Associated with a coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)	I21.A9

- **Site**
 - Specifying the site is vital for treatment strategies and for accurate code selection. Common sites include anterior wall, inferior wall, lateral wall, septal wall, posterior wall, and left or right ventricle.
- **Initial or Subsequent**
 - While an initial MI is the first acute heart attack, a subsequent MI is when a patient who has suffered a type 1 or unspecified AMI has a *new* AMI within 4 weeks of the initial AMI.

References

- <https://www.msmanuals.com/professional/cardiovascular-disorders/coronary-artery-disease/acute-myocardial-infarction-mi>
- https://www.aapc.com/codes/coding-newsletters/my-cardiology-coding-alert/icd-10-cm-how-to-confidently-report-myocardial-infarctions-in-your-practice-175953-article?srsId=AfmBOorQ7UmOfmPqpvZSGKT0pMx9XL0cMIYtPB_zK75qJGSt55_F8hE7
- ICD-10-CM Expert, Chapter 9, I.C.9.e.4

We want to hear from you!

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island welcomes your input for future Risk Adjustment Coding Corner topics. What would you like to learn more about? Please send any suggestions, feedback, or questions to RiskAdjustment@nhpri.org.