

# Diabetes

## Documentation and Coding Guide

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### Overview

According to the CDC's National Diabetes Statistics Report for 2020, in 2018,

- 34.2 million people, or 10.5% of the U.S. population had diabetes
- 34.1 million adults aged 18 years or older of all US adults had diabetes
- 10.2% of the population – had diagnosed diabetes, and
- Approximately 7.3 million people have diabetes but have not yet been diagnosed

Chronic hyperglycemia can come with the risk of serious health complications such as cardiovascular disease, kidney damage (nephropathy), foot damage, eye damage (retinopathy), nerve damage (neuropathy), hearing impairment, and depression. **All these conditions need to be coded as well.** Codes from categories E08 – E13 can be used to identify all the associated conditions that the patient has.

### Coding and Documentation Tips and Tricks

The diabetes mellitus codes are combination codes that include the type of diabetes mellitus, the body system affected, and the complications affecting that body system. Documentation should include:

1. Type 1, Type 2, drug or chemical induced, due to underlying condition, or gestational
2. Complications, presence of other body systems affected by the diabetes condition?
3. Is the patient on long-term insulin?

It is now possible to document and code for “hypoglycemia” and “hyperglycemia” without using “diabetes mellitus” and to specify if the condition is due to a procedure or other cause.

- Language such as “controlled” or “uncontrolled” and “juvenile-onset” or “adult-onset” is obsolete.
- Use language Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes mellitus, distinguished by the use of insulin.
  - Type 1 is a result from a lack of insulin production, whereas type 2 is a result of insulin resistance.
  - An endocrinologist may need to determine which type is appropriate.
  - While insulin use is more common in type 1, it may also be used in type 2.
- If the type of diabetes is not documented in the medical record, **default to E11 codes for type 2 diabetes.**
  - If the patient uses insulin, record insulin separately, **use the code for long-term use of insulin, Z79.4**, in addition to **E11** codes (unless insulin was given to the patient as a one-time fix to control blood sugar.)
- Use as many ICD-10 codes as necessary to describe the patient's form of diabetes.
- The more characters in the code, the more specific the diagnosis. Give the longest code possible while retaining accuracy.
- The word “with” in the code titles means “associated with” or “due to” (it doesn't refer to two separate conditions).

- The “unspecified” codes can be used when not enough information is known to give a more specific diagnosis.
- If secondary diabetes is the result of another condition, use the primary condition first, followed by the diabetes code.
  - Example 1: Cushing’s syndrome, use code E24.9, followed by E08.9.
    - E24.9 Cushing’s syndrome, unspecified.
    - E08.9 Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition without complications.
  - Example 2: If the condition is caused by the adverse effects of steroids, report codes E09.9 and T38.0X5A.
    - E09.9 Drug or chemical induced diabetes without complications.
    - T38.0X5A Adverse effect of glucocorticoids and synthetic analogues, initial encounter.
- **Glucose screening benefit:** two free diabetes screenings yearly (or 1 every 6 months) is available to Medicare beneficiaries who have one or more of the following diabetes risk factors:
  - Hypertension
  - Dyslipidemia
  - Obesity-having a BMI of 30 or higher.
  - Signs of impaired glucose tolerance or high fasting glucose levels
- **R73 Elevated blood glucose level** – without diagnosis of diabetes mellitus. Medicare recipients at risk of developing diabetes are entitled to a fasting blood glucose test (R73.01), a post-glucose challenge test (R73.02) and either a 2-hour post-glucose challenge test alone or an oral glucose tolerance test with a 75-gram glucose challenge.
  - R73.0 Abnormal glucose
  - R73.01 Impaired fasting glucose
    - **Prediabetes** fasting blood sugar level from 100 to 125 mg/dL).
    - **Diabetes** If 126 mg/dL or higher on two separate tests.
  - R73.02 Impaired glucose tolerance (oral)
    - **Prediabetes** results between 140 and 199 mg/dL.
    - **Diabetes** If > 200 mg/dL after two hours.
  - R73.03 Prediabetes (A1c 5.7 - 6.4)
  - R73.09 Other abnormal glucose
  - R73.9 Hyperglycemia, unspecified
- Pregnant women who are diabetic **should be assigned a code from the 024 category first, followed by the appropriate diabetes codes in the E08 to E13 range.**
- Women with gestational diabetes should be assigned a code under the 024.4 subheading and not any other codes under the 024 category.

## ICD-10 Coding for Diabetes

ICD-10 Code	ICD-10 Code Description	ICD-10 Code Definition	Additional Information
<b>E08</b>	Diabetes due to underlying conditions	(codes that start with E08)	First code the underlying condition. Use additional code to identify any insulin use
<b>E09</b>	Drug or chemical induced diabetes	(codes that start with E09)	First, code poisoning due to drug or toxin, if applicable. Use additional code for adverse effect, if applicable, to identify drug. Use additional code to identify any insulin use
<b>E10</b>	Type 1 diabetes	(codes that start with E10)	No additional code needed to identify insulin use
<b>E11</b>	Type 2 diabetes	(codes that start with E11)	Use additional code to identify any insulin use. If the medical record does not specify the diabetes type, but indicates that the patient uses insulin, code it as E11
<b>E13</b>	Other types of diabetes not covered by the previous categories	(codes that start with E13)	Use additional code to identify any insulin use
<b>024</b>	Diabetes related to pregnancy	(codes that start with 024)	Not included with this cheat sheet.
<b>Z79.4</b>	Long-term use of insulin		Do not use the code Z79.4, if insulin is given temporarily to bring a type 2 patient's blood sugar under control
<b>Z79.84</b>	Long term (current) use of oral hypoglycemic drugs		
<b>CPT 82947</b>	Glucose; quantitative, blood (except reagent strip		Document - must be reasonable and medically necessary for the diagnosis

CPT 82950	Glucose; post glucose dose (includes glucose)		Document - must be reasonable and medically necessary for the diagnosis
CPT 82951	Screen for diabetes with glucose tolerance test (GTT)	three specimens (includes glucose)	Document - must be reasonable and medically necessary for the diagnosis
CPT 83036 CPT 83036QW	Hemoglobin; glycosylated (A1C)	QW is CLIA-waived test	Document - must be reasonable and medically necessary for the diagnosis
Z13.1	Encounter for screening for diabetes mellitus	used to record the results of a diabetes screening	Document - must be reasonable and medically necessary for the diagnosis
R73	Elevated blood glucose level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .0 Abnormal glucose</li> <li>• .01 Impaired fasting glucose</li> <li>• .02 Impaired glucose tolerance (oral)</li> <li>• .03 Prediabetes</li> <li>• .09 Other abnormal glucose</li> <li>• .9 Hyperglycemia, unspecified</li> </ul>	Codes to record abnormal blood glucose levels without a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus	Excludes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• diabetes mellitus (E08-E13)</li> <li>• diabetes mellitus in pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (O24...)</li> <li>• neonatal disorders (P70.0-P70.2)</li> <li>• Postsurgical hypoinsulinemia (E89.1)</li> </ul>
<b>*Use the first 3 digits of the ICD-10 code, followed by the extension (after the “.”)</b>			
<b>E08.0</b> <b>E09.0</b> <b>E10.0</b> <b>E11.0</b> <b>E13.0</b>	... with hyperosmolarity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .00 without nonketotic hyperglycemic-hyperosmolar coma (NKHHC)</li> <li>• .01 with coma</li> </ul>	ex: E08.00, E09.00, E10.00, E11.00, E13.00	Diagnostic criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood glucose &gt;200</li> <li>• Fasting glucose &gt;126 on 2 separate occasions</li> <li>• Random Blood Glucose or Oral Glucose Tolerance &gt;200</li> </ul>
<b>E08.1</b> <b>E09.1</b> <b>E10.1</b> <b>E11.1</b> <b>E13.1</b>	... with ketoacidosis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .10 without coma</li> <li>• .11 with coma</li> </ul>		
<b>E08.2</b> <b>E09.2</b>	... with kidney complications		

E10.2 E11.2 E13.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.21</b> ... with diabetic nephropathy</li> <li>• <b>.22</b> ... with diabetic chronic kidney disease</li> <li>• <b>.29</b> ... with other diabetic kidney complication</li> </ul>		
E08.3 E09.3 E10.3 E11.3 E13.3	... with ophthalmic complications		
E08.31 E09.31 E10.31 E11.31 E13.31	... with unspecified diabetic retinopathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.311</b> ... with macular edema</li> <li>• <b>.319</b> ... without macular edema</li> </ul>		
E08.32 E09.32 E10.32 E11.32 E13.32	... with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.321</b> ... with macular edema</li> <li>• <b>.329</b> ... without macular edema</li> </ul>		
E08.33 E09.33 E10.33 E11.33 E13.33	... with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.331</b> with macular edema</li> <li>• <b>.339</b> without macular edema</li> </ul>		
E08.34 E09.34 E10.34 E11.34 E13.34	... with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.341</b> with macular edema</li> <li>• <b>.349</b> without macular edema</li> </ul>		
E08.35 E09.35 E10.35 E11.35	... with proliferative diabetic retinopathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.351</b> with macular edema</li> </ul>		

<b>E13.35</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.359</b> without macular edema</li> </ul>		
<b>E08.36</b> <b>E09.36</b> <b>E10.36</b> <b>E11.36</b> <b>E13.36</b>	... with diabetic cataract		
<b>E08.39</b> <b>E09.39</b> <b>E10.39</b> <b>E11.39</b> <b>E13.39</b>	... with other diabetic ophthalmic complication		
<b>E08.4</b> <b>E09.4</b> <b>E10.4</b> <b>E11.4</b> <b>E13.4</b>	<p>...with neurological complications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.40</b> ...with diabetic neuropathy, unspecified</li> <li>• <b>.41</b> ... with diabetic mononeuropathy</li> <li>• <b>.42</b> ... with diabetic polyneuropathy</li> <li>• <b>.43</b> ... with diabetic autonomic (poly)neuropathy:</li> <li>• <b>.44</b> ... with diabetic amyotrophy</li> <li>• <b>.49</b> ... with other diabetic neurological complication</li> </ul>		
<b>E08.5</b> <b>E09.5</b> <b>E10.5</b> <b>E11.5</b> <b>E13.5</b>	<p>... with circulatory complications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>.51</b> ... with diabetic peripheral angiopathy without gangrene</li> <li>• <b>.52</b> ... with diabetic peripheral angiopathy with gangrene</li> <li>• <b>.59</b> ... with other circulatory complications</li> </ul>		

E08.6 E09.6 E10.6 E11.6 E13.6	... with other specified complications		
E08.61 E09.61 E10.61 E11.61 E13.61	... with diabetic arthropathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .610 ...with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy</li> <li>• .618 ... with other diabetic arthropathy</li> </ul>		
E08.62 E09.62 E10.62 E11.62 E13.62	... with skin complications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .620 ...with diabetic dermatitis</li> <li>• .621...with foot ulcer</li> <li>• .622 ...with other skin ulcer</li> <li>• .628 ... with other skin complications</li> </ul>		
E08.63 E09.63 E10.63 E11.63 E13.63	... with oral complications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .630... with periodontal disease</li> <li>• .638 ... with other oral complications</li> </ul>		
E08.64 E09.64 E10.64 E11.64 E13.64	...with hypoglycemia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .641..... with coma</li> <li>• .649..... without coma</li> </ul>		
E08.65 E09.65 E10.65 E11.65 E13.65	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with hyperglycemia		
E08.69 E09.69 E10.69 E11.69 E13.69	... with other specified complication		

E08.8 E09.8 E10.8 E11.8	... with unspecified complications		
E08.9 E09.9 E10.9 E11.9	... without complications		Use when no other complications of diabetes exist.

### Resources

- [What Are the ICD-10 Codes for Diabetes? Complete List \(prepscholar.com\)](https://prepscholar.com/what-are-the-icd-10-codes-for-diabetes-complete-list/)
- [3 Tips for Coding Diabetes With ICD-10 - American Academy of Ophthalmology \(aao.org\)](https://www.aao.org/3-tips-for-coding-diabetes-with-icd-10)
- [ICD-10 Tips for Family Practice \(practicefusion.com\)](https://www.practicefusion.com/icd-10-tips-for-family-practice/)
- [Medical Codes to Report Diabetes Mellitus \(outsourcestrategies.com\)](https://www.outsourcestrategies.com/medical-codes-to-report-diabetes-mellitus/)
- [2023 ICD-10-CM Codes R73\\*: Elevated blood glucose level \(icd10data.com\)](https://www.icd10data.com/2023/icd10-cm-codes/R73*/Elevated-blood-glucose-level/)
- [Diabetes - Diagnosis and treatment - Mayo Clinic](https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/diabetes/symptoms-causes/whi-20287837)