

# Hypertension (I10-I16) ICD-10-CM



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Hypertension (HTN), also called high blood pressure, is a common and dangerous condition that can damage the blood vessels and ultimately lead to numerous other conditions including stroke, heart disease, renal disease and vision problems.

## HTN facts

- HTN affects more men than women before 64 years of age, but after 65 years old, more women than men have high blood pressure.
- High blood pressure is called the silent killer because it frequently does not show signs or symptoms.
- In the United States, high blood pressure costs around \$47.5 billion each year including health care services, medications and missed work days.
- Reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from July 2014 inform that 1 of 3 U.S. adults — or 67 million people — have high blood pressure. About half of these adults have their high blood pressure under control. More than 360,000 American deaths in 2010 included high blood pressure as a main or contributing cause.

## Blood pressure readings

|         | Systolic      | Diastolic   |
|---------|---------------|-------------|
| Normal  | <120 mmHg     | <80 mmHg    |
| At risk | >120-139 mmHg | >80-89 mmHg |
| High    | ≥140 mmHg     | ≥90 mmHg    |

## Some ICD-10-CM characteristics

- When the physician documents the patient has an elevated blood pressure reading but a diagnosis of HTN is not established, coders should report ICD-10-CM code R03.0 (elevated blood pressure reading without diagnosis of HTN).
- The HTN codes extend from I10 to I15; there is not a category I14.
- There are only nine codes for primary HTN and five codes for secondary HTN.
- There is not a HTN table as there was in ICD-9.
- ICD-10-CM does not distinguish between malignant vs. benign or controlled vs. uncontrolled hypertension. Code I10 for HTN is assigned when HTN is described as essential, benign or malignant as well as when HTN is not otherwise specified (NOS).

- There are just two base codes for patients with hypertensive heart disease: I11.0 (with heart failure) and I11.9 (without heart failure).
- If HTN is secondary to another disease, code the underlying condition as well as the secondary HTN code (I15).
- The combination hypertensive codes require supplementary codes to identify the stage of kidney disease and/or the type and acuteness of heart failure when those disorders are present.
- Use an additional code if the patient is exposed to, or is a current or former tobacco user, such as: exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (Z77.22), history of tobacco use (Z87.891), occupational exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (Z57.31), nicotine dependence (F17.-) and tobacco use (Z72.0).
- Per *ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting (FY 2017)*, “The classification presumes a causal relationship between hypertension and heart involvement and between hypertension and kidney involvement, as the two conditions are linked by the term ‘with’ in the Alphabetic Index. These conditions should be coded as related even in the absence of provider documentation explicitly linking them, unless documentation clearly states the conditions are unrelated.”

## Classification

|                                                             |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>Hypertension, essential (primary)</b>                    | I10    |
| <b>Hypertensive heart disease</b>                           | I11.-  |
| W/ heart failure                                            | I11.0  |
| W/out heart failure                                         | I11.9  |
| <b>Hypertensive CKD</b>                                     | I12.-  |
| W/CKD stage 5 or end-stage renal disease (ERSD)             | I12.0  |
| W/CKD stage 1-4 or unspecified chronic kidney disease (CKD) | I12.9  |
| <b>Hypertensive heart and CKD</b>                           | I13.-  |
| W/heart failure and CKD stage 1-4 or unspecified CKD        | I13.0  |
| W/out heart failure and CKD stage 1-4 or unspecified CKD    | I13.10 |
| W/out heart failure and CKD stage 5 or ESRD                 | I13.11 |
| W/heart failure and CKD stage 5 or ESRD                     | I13.2  |

The sequence of codes are based on the reason for the encounter.

### Essential (primary) hypertension (I10)

ICD-10 uses a single code for individuals with HTN who do not have additional disorders like heart or kidney disease.

Code I10 includes high blood pressure, but it does not include elevated blood pressure reading without a diagnosis of HTN. The definition of HTN may vary, but it is recommended that the provider document elevated systolic pressure above 140 or diastolic pressure above 90 with at least two readings during different office visits. Documentation should clearly identify the basis for a newly established diagnosis of HTN.

### Hypertensive heart disease (I11)

Per *ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting (FY 2017)*, "Hypertension with heart conditions classified to I50.- or I51.4-I51.9, are assigned to a code from category I11, Hypertensive heart disease. Use an additional code from category I50, heart failure, to identify the type of heart failure in those patients with heart failure."

HTN has an assumed relationship with these heart conditions (I50.-, I51.4-I51.9). They are coded as related unless the provider specifically documents a different cause for the heart condition. The code sequence will depend on the circumstances of the omission/encounter.

### Hypertensive CKD (I12)

Assign a code for hypertensive CKD from category I12 whenever CKD and HTN occur together even if there is no causal relationship documented. ICD-10-CM presumes a cause-and-effect relationship and classifies CKD with HTN as hypertensive CKD. The appropriate code from category N18 should be used as a secondary code to identify the stage of CKD.

### Hypertensive heart and CKD (I13)

The codes in category I13, hypertensive heart and CKD, are combination codes that include HTN, heart disease and CKD. There is a note that specifies the conditions included in I11 and I12 are contained within category I13. This means that if a patient has HTN, heart disease and CKD, then a code from I13 should be used, not individual codes for HTN, heart disease and CKD, or codes from I11 or I12.

Assign codes from combination category I13 when both hypertensive kidney disease and hypertensive heart disease are stated as the diagnosis. There is an assumed relationship between HTN and certain heart conditions and also with CKD whether or not the conditions are stated as such. If heart failure is present, assign an additional code from category I50 to identify the type of heart failure.

A code from category N18, CKD, should be used as a secondary with a code from category I13 to identify the stage of CKD. For patients with both acute renal failure and CKD, an additional code for acute renal failure is required.

### Transient HTN (R03.0)

Transient hypertension describes episodes of high blood pressure that are not persistent. Assign code R03.0, Elevated blood pressure reading without an established diagnosis of hypertension, unless the patient has already been diagnosed with hypertension.

### Hypertensive retinopathy disease

Subcategory H35.0, background retinopathy and retinal vascular changes, should be used along with a code from category I10-I15, hypertensive disease, to include the systemic HTN. Sequencing will vary.

### Secondary HTN (I15)

Secondary HTN is due to an underlying condition. Two codes are required: one to identify the underlying etiology and one from category I15 to identify the HTN.

### Hypertensive cerebrovascular disease

Begin by assigning the appropriate code from categories I60-I69, followed by the correct HTN code.

## HTN coding examples

- Patient presents with transient HTN occurring during the postoperative period.
  - ICD-10-CM: transient HTN is considered elevated blood pressure (R03.0)
  - Rationale: This is assigned because the physician did not document whether the transient HTN was related to, or a complication of the procedure.
- Patient presents with congestive heart failure (CHF) due to hypertensive heart and renal disease with CKD, unspecified.
  - ICD-10-CM: hypertensive heart and CKD with heart failure and CKD unspecified (I13.0), CHF unspecified. (I50.9) and CKD unspecified (N18.9)
- Patient presents with CHF due to HTN.
  - ICD-10-CM: hypertensive heart disease with heart failure ( I11.0) and CHF unspecified (I50.9)
- A patient is diagnosed with CHF due to diastolic dysfunction with HTN.
  - ICD-10-CM: hypertensive heart disease, unspecified, with heart failure (I11.0) and unspecified diastolic (congestive) heart failure (I50.30)
- A patient presents to the hospital for treatment of CHF. The patient also has hypertensive nephropathy with ESRD, on dialysis.
  - ICD-10-CM: hypertensive Heart and CKD with heart failure and CKD unspecified (I13.0), CHF unspecified (I50.9), ESRD (N18.6) and dialysis status (Z99.2)
  - Rationale: A code from category I13 is used because there is an assumed relationship between CHF and HTN unless documented states otherwise.

## References

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