

Acute Condition Not Usually Treated in an Office Setting

Although patients occasionally present to the physician's office with life threatening conditions, in general patients are treated in a hospital setting. Remember that historical ("history of") conditions are not coded as if the patient has the condition currently. Physicians also cannot code "rule out" conditions.

ICD-9 410.XX - Acute MI

Acute MI is an emergent condition, requiring hospitalization. While we recognize that patients may occasionally present to their physician's office at the onset of symptoms of an MI, it is expected that the patient would be transported to the hospital setting.

In chart review, we often find that the medical record indicates "MI" with no indication of when the MI occurred. **The use of codes in this series is restricted to the acute event itself and the subsequent 8 weeks.**

If the patient is being seen or treated after that 8 week period, the documentation should reflect that there is a history of MI, and coded as 412- Old MI.