

## Injury Codes Outside of Chapter 17

Donnamaria Pickett\*

\*Medical Systems Administrator, National Center for Health Statistics, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Hyattsville, MD

- There are approximately 13,000 codes in ICD-9-CM
- Some of these codes identify injuries
  - Most injury codes are found in Chapter 17
  - Some injuries may be found in Chapters 1 -16 and injury related V-codes
  - Some of the codes, though injury-related, may be conditions secondary to the initial injury
- Some codes identify conditions that have an external cause but are not injuries

The objective of this analysis is to identify codes for injuries and conditions in Chapters 1-16 that should be included in data analysis.

For this discussion the following conditions have been excluded: (iatrogenic conditions, occupational conditions (chronic conditions due to long-term exposure to external agent), and drug- and anesthesia- induced conditions.

The ICD classification acknowledges that not all injury codes are located in the Injury and Poisoning chapter of ICD (Chapter 17 in ICD-9 and Chapter 19 in ICD-10).

### ICD-9

p. 547, Volume 1, ninth revision, Supplementary Classification of External Causes of Injury and Poisoning: **Certain other conditions which may be stated to be due to external causes are classified in Chapters I to XVI of ICD**, and for these the "E" code classification should be used as an additional code for multiple-condition analysis only. In mortality tabulation in the U.S. the cases outside of Chapter 17 may be identified through multiple cause analysis only."

### ICD-10

p. 103 volume 2, tenth revision, Coding of external causes of morbidity: "For injuries and other conditions due to external causes, both the nature of the condition and the circumstances of the external cause should be coded. The preferred "main condition" code should be that describing the nature of the condition. **This will usually, but not always, be classifiable to Chapter 19.** The code from chapter 20 indicating the external cause would be used as an optional additional code.

## Acute Injuries

A condition or injury that is the immediate and direct result of the external cause of injury

### Ear

Acute swimmer's ear 380.12

### Eye

Solar retinopathy 363.31

~~Choroidal wound or rupture~~ 363.63

Photokeratitis (includes snowblindness/sun blindness) 370.24

Superficial injury of cornea due to contact lens 371.82

Acoustic trauma (explosive) ear 388.11

Secondary and chronic conditions resulting from injuries A condition secondary to the acute injury

### Infectious Disease

Tetanus 037

### Mental health

Post-concussion syndrome 310.2

### Eye

Foreign body, intraocular, magnetic 360.5x

Foreign body, intraocular, non-magnetic 360.6x

Glaucoma due to ocular trauma 365.65

Traumatic cataract 366.20 - 366.23

Radiation cataract 366.46

Retained foreign body, eyelid 374.86

Foreign body, orbit 376.6

Retained (old) foreign body following penetrating wound of orbit 376.6

Ear

Acquired stenosis of external ear canal, secondary to trauma	380.51
Retained foreign body, middle ear	385.83
Noise-induced hearing loss	388.12

Skin and Subcutaneous

Foreign body granuloma, skin & subcut. tissue	709.4
---	-------

Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue

Traumatic arthropathy	716.1x	
Internal derangement	717.x	
Other derangement of joint	718.x	Except 718.2x & 718.6x
Traumatic spondylopathy	721.7	
Foreign body granuloma, muscle	728.82	
Old or residual foreign body in soft tissue	729.6	
Malunion of fracture	733.81	
Fracture non-union	733.82	

Codes Dropped from Consideration

A- Conditions that may be due to an external cause but the condition is not an injury:

Hemoglobinuria caused by training for marathon run	283.2	
Contact dermatitis and other eczema	692	
Dermatitis due to substances taken internally, drugs	693.1	
Dermatitis due to substances taken internally, other substances	693.8	
Hives due to cold and heat	708.2	Allergic reaction. Exposure not necessarily excessive to invoke response

Respiratory

Respiratory conditions due to chemical fumes and vapors	506.0 - 506.3
Pneumonitis due to inhalation of oils and essences	507.1
Pneumonitis due to solids and liquids (inhalation)	507.8
Acute pulmonary manifestations due to radiation	508.0 & 508.9

Chronic respiratory

Chronic respiratory conditions due to chemical fumes and vapors	506.4	
Unspecified respiratory conditions due to fumes & vapors	506.9	
Chronic and other pulmonary manifestations due to radiation	508.1	
Respiratory conditions due to other specified external agents	508.8	Includes acute, subacute, & chronic conditions
Respiratory conditions due to unspecified external agent	508.9	Includes acute, subacute & chronic conditions

B- Some codes contain conditions that may be due to trauma **or** injury. These cases should not be included in the data analysis without verifying the cause.

376.47	Deformity due to trauma or surgery
376.52	Enophthalmos due to trauma or surgery
518.5	Pulmonary insufficiency following trauma and surgery
364.61	Implantation cysts of iris, ciliary body, and anterior chamber due to surgery or trauma
376.52	Enophthalmos due to trauma or surgery
598.1	Traumatic urethral stricture (may be due to trauma or post-obstetrical)
767.0	Subdural and cerebral hemorrhage, which may be due to birth trauma or to intrapartum anoxia or hypoxia

C- Some codes contain injury-related conditions in addition to many other non-injury-related conditions

Retrograde amnesia	780.9 (contains other conditions, such as cold intolerance, hypopyrexia, generalized pain, specified symptoms NEC, etc.)
--------------------	--

Injury in pregnancy 648.9 (contains other conditions complicating pregnancy such as malnutrition, diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries)

Several mental health codes also fall into this category:

Some codes capture conditions that may be due to an external cause of injury or other than injury (e.g., emotional trauma such as witnessing a violent act:

Post-traumatic amnesia	294.0
Acute situational	308.3
Posttraumatic stress	309.81

D- Obstetrical Codes

Codes 664-665 are not injuries. These conditions are the result of birth process and not an external cause

F- Skin and Subcutaneous

Inflammations, infections and ulcers may be injury-related, but are not the immediate and direct result of an injury.

Abscess/Cellulitis	681 & 682
Acute lymphadenitis	683
Other local infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue	686
Chronic skin ulcer	707

Accident without injuries

Patient without signs and symptoms suspected of having abnormal conditions but upon examination condition is found not to exist

Observation following accident at work	V71.3
Observation following MVA	V71.4
Observation following alleged rape or seduction	V71.5
Observation following inflicted injury (victim or culprit) NEC	V71.6
Observation for other specified suspected conditions	V71.8

## History of injury event

Personal history presenting hazard to health, physical abuse	V15.41
Personal history presenting hazard to health, injury	V15.5
Personal history presenting hazard to health, poisoning	V16.6
Aftercare involving the use of plastic surgery	V51
Plastic surgery following healed injury or operation	
Other orthopedic aftercare	V54.0
Counseling for victim of spousal and partner abuse	V61.11
Counseling for victim of child abuse	V61.21

## Newborn Codes

Codes for injuries due to forces of labor or medical/surgical interventions. E-code assigned would be in range of E870-E876 (Misadventures to patients during surgical and medical care).

Injury to spine and spinal cord due to birth trauma	767.4
Facial nerve injury due to birth trauma	767.5
Injury to brachial plexus due to birth trauma	767.6
Other cranial and peripheral nerve injuries due to birth trauma	767.7
Other specified birth trauma	767.8
Includes: Eye damage	
Hematoma of: liver (subcapsular), testes, vulva,	
Rupture of: liver, spleen,	
Scalpel wound	
Traumatic glaucoma	
Fetus or newborn affected by maternal injury (conditions classified to 800-995)	760.5

Snowblindness: temporary loss of sight due to injury to superficial cells of the cornea caused by ultraviolet rays of the sun reinforced by those reflected by the sun

Birth injury: Impairment of body function or structure due to adverse influences to which the infant has been subjected at birth

## Late Effects of Injuries, Poisonings, Toxic Effects, and Other External Causes

These codes are used as a secondary diagnosis and should never be used as a principal diagnosis. The residual effect (condition produced) after the acute injury has terminated is assigned as the principal diagnosis. Example: shortened arm due to fracture of elbow at growth plate 736.89+905.2.

Late effects of musculoskeletal and connective tissue injuries	905
Late effects of injuries to skin and subcutaneous tissues	906
Late effects of injuries to the nervous system	907
Late effects of other and unspecified injuries	908
Late effects of other and unspecified external causes	909