

Documentation and Reporting Deep Vein Thrombosis & Embolus

DOCUMENTATION TIPS

Document deep vein thrombosis (DVT), pulmonary embolism (PE), thrombosis when there is active treatment, or the condition has become chronic. Document each of these elements to specifically report the condition:

- **Condition** – embolism, thrombosis, deep vein thrombosis (DVT)
- **Acuity** – acute, chronic
- **Location** – calf, thigh, lung, etc.
- **Site** – specify the affected blood vessel, if known
- **Laterality** – right, left or bilateral
- **Underlying cause** – heart failure, obesity, prolonged inactivity, inflammation, injury

Documentation Considerations

- Document the active condition while the patient is undergoing treatment.
- Document the condition as **acute** or **chronic**. Unspecified DVT is reported as an acute condition.
- Document whether anticoagulants are prescribed prophylactically or are part of ongoing treatment for an active condition.
- Document **clinical indicators** in the absence of a confirmed diagnosis, such as: (DVT) swelling in the effected leg, pain or tenderness, red or discolored skin, a feeling of warmth; (PE) sudden shortness of breath or fast breathing, sharp chest pain with coughing, back pain, fast heartbeat, feeling dizzy or fainting.

DVT, Embolism, PE (not an all-inclusive list)

ICD-10-CM Code	Description
I27.81	Chronic pulmonary embolism
I82.4-	Acute embolism and thrombosis of deep veins of lower extremity
I82.5-	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of deep veins of lower extremity
I82.6-	Acute embolism and thrombosis of veins of upper extremity
I82.7-	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of veins of upper extremity
I82.A-	Embolism and thrombosis of axillary vein
I82.B-	Embolism and thrombosis of subclavian vein
I82.C-	Embolism and thrombosis of internal jugular vein

The fifth character in subcategories I82.4 and I82.5 identifies the affected vein:

0 = unspecified vein	5 = peroneal vein
1 = femoral vein	6 = calf muscular vein
2 = iliac vein	9 = other specified vein
3 = popliteal vein	Y = proximal lower extremity
4 = tibial vein	Z = distal lower extremity

Report Z79.01 Long-term (current) use of anticoagulants, for active treatment and when given prophylactically.

History of Venous Thrombosis and Embolisms

ICD-10-CM Code	Description
Z86.711	Personal history of pulmonary embolism
Z86.718	Personal history of other venous thrombosis and embolism

DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING EXAMPLE

Patient presents with swelling, warmth and discoloration of left calf. Duplex ultrasound confirms acute DVT of left calf muscular vein. Prescription for warfarin 2 mg q.d. Continue for 3 months. Target INR is 2.5. Patient referred to lab for blood draw in 3 days.

I82.462 Acute embolism and thrombosis of left calf muscular vein

Z79.01 Long-term (current) use of anticoagulant

According to the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY2022: “A dash (-) at the end of an alphabetic index entry indicates that additional characters are required.” Refer to the tabular to verify that all characters are assigned to complete the diagnosis code.

1. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY2022. 1 Oct. 2021, www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2022-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines.pdf. Accessed 30 Nov. 2021.