

E/M Documentation Guide

Inpatient and Outpatient

INPATIENT		2 OF 3 COLUMNS MUST BE MET			or TOTAL TIME
Initial Hospital Care (includes Subacute)		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99221	1 self-ltd./minor or 1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	MIN/LOW	MIN/LTD	MIN/LOW	40-54 min
99222	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	55-74 min
99223	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	75-89 min
Subsequent Hospital Care (includes Subacute)		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99231	1 self-ltd./minor or 1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs	MIN/LOW	MIN/LTD	MIN/LOW	25-34 min
99232	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	35-49 min
99233	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	50-64 min
99238	Discharge - ≤ 30 min.	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-30 min
99239	Discharge - > 30 min. (time documentation required)	N/A	N/A	N/A	31+ min
Consultation (includes Subacute)		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99252	1 self-limited or minor problem	MIN	MIN/NONE	MIN	35-44 min
99253	1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	LOW	LTD	LOW	45-59 min
99254	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	60-79 min
99255	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	80-94 min
Prolonged Service (each 15 min.)		THRESHOLD TIMES (MIN.)			
99418	Initial Hospital Care	90-104	99223, 99418 x 1	105-119	99223, 99418 x 2
	Subsequent Hospital Care	65-79	99233, 99418 x 1	80-94	99233, 99418 x 2
	Consultation	95-109	99255, 99418 x 1	110-124	99255, 99418 x 2
OUTPATIENT		2 OF 3 COLUMNS MUST BE MET			or TOTAL TIME
New Patient		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99202	1 self-limited or minor problem	MIN	MIN/NONE	MIN	15-29 min
99203	1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	LOW	LTD	LOW	30-44 min
99204	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	45-59 min
99205	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	60-74 min
Established Patient		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99212	1 self-limited or minor problem	MIN	MIN/NONE	MIN	10-19 min
99213	1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	LOW	LTD	LOW	20-29 min
99214	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	30-39 min
99215	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	40-54 min
Consultation		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99242	1 self-limited or minor problem	MIN	MIN/NONE	MIN	20-29 min
99243	1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	LOW	LTD	LOW	30-39 min
99244	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	40-54 min
99245	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	55-69 min
Emergency (MDM only)		PROB	DATA	RISK	TIME
99282	1 self-limited or minor problem	MIN	MIN/NONE	MIN	N/A
99283	1 stable acute or chronic or 1 acute uncomp. or 2 minor probs.	LOW	LTD	LOW	N/A
99284	2 stable chr. or 1 exacerb. chr. or 1 undx. new or 1 acute systemic or 1 acute comp.	MOD	MOD	MOD	N/A
99285	1 severe exacerb. or 1 threat to life or bodily function	HIGH	EXT	HIGH	N/A
Prolonged Service (each 15 min.)		THRESHOLD TIMES (MIN.)			
99417	New Patient	75-89	99205, 99417 x 1	90-104	99205, 99417 x 2
	Established Patient	55-69	99215, 99417 x 1	70-84	99215, 99417 x 2
	Consultation	70-84	99245, 99417 x 1	85-99	99245, 99417 x 2

ASSIGN E/M CODE ON MDM (2 OF 3) or TIME (OTHER SIDE)

NUMBER & COMPLEXITY OF PROBLEMS ADDRESSED AT THE ENCOUNTER (PROB)

MIN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 self-limited or minor problem
LOW:	<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; • 1 stable, chronic illness; • 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury; • 1 stable, acute illness; • 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury requiring hospital inpatient level of care
MOD:	<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or more chronic illnesses w/exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; • 2 or more stable, chronic illnesses; • 1 undiagnosed new problem w/uncertain prognosis; • 1 acute illness w/systemic symptoms; • 1 acute, complicated injury
HIGH:	<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or more chronic illnesses w/severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; • 1 acute or chronic illness or injury that poses a threat to life or bodily function

AMOUNT AND/OR COMPLEXITY OF DATA TO BE REVIEWED AND ANALYZED (DATA)

MIN/NONE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal or none
LTD:	<p>Must meet the requirements of at least 1 of the 2 categories: Category 1: Any combination of 2 from the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; • Review of result(s) of each unique test; • Ordering of each unique test (do not count if reviewed at the same encounter) <p>Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s)</p>
MOD:	<p>Must meet the requirements of at least 1 of the 3 categories: Category 1: Any combination of 3 from the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; • Review of result(s) of each unique test; • Ordering of each unique test (do not count if reviewed at the same encounter); • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) <p>Category 2: Independent interpretation of a test by another physician/other qualified health care practitioner (QHP) (not separately reported)</p> <p>Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation w/external physician/other QHP/appropriate source (not separately reported)</p>
EXT:	<p>Must meet the requirements of at least 2 of the 3 categories: Category 1: Any combination of 3 from the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; • Review of result(s) of each unique test; • Ordering of each unique test (do not count if reviewed at the same encounter); • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) <p>Category 2: Independent interpretation of a test by another physician/other qualified health care practitioner (QHP) (not separately reported)</p> <p>Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation w/external physician/other QHP/appropriate source (not separately reported)</p>

RISK OF COMPLICATIONS AND/OR MORBIDITY OR MORTALITY OF PATIENT MANAGEMENT

Level	Examples only
MIN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluids and rest; • Diaper ointment; • Superficial wound dressing
LOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over-the-counter medication; • Decision regarding minor surgery w/o identified patient or procedure risk factors; • Physical, language, or occupational therapy
MOD:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription drug management; • Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors; • Decision regarding elective major surgery w/o identified patient or procedure risk factors; • Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
HIGH:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity; • Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors; • Decision regarding emergency major surgery; • Decision regarding hospitalization or escalation of hospital-level care; • Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis; • Parenteral controlled substances