

Clinical Documentation Integrity CDI Tip Card

Clinical Documentation Integrity exists to improve the integrity of healthcare records through better documentation and data quality.

Documentation	Tips and Notes
Do Not Use	 Use: Likely, Possible, Probable,
"+/-"	Suspected, Cannot Rule Out
Avoid ↑ / ↓	Document diagnosis
Symptoms	 Document suspected or known
	source/cause
	 Document suspected/possible
	condition being treated
Hx of	 Avoid "hx of" if under current
	treatment, document active/current
	disease
Present on	Specify POA status for the following:
Admission	 CAUTI, DVT, Pressure Ulcers, Sepsis
(POA) status	 Complications of previous care or
	devices
Discharge	 Summarize the encounter
Summary	 Document current conditions
	Document ALL conditions
	treated/resolved during stay
Operative	 Date, time, procedure(s) intended &
Report	performed, device(s) placed
	 Specify complications vs inherent risk
	of surgery

Neurology		
Instead of	Please consider	
Altered	Encephalopathy due to	
Mental Status	 Delirium due to e.g. drug 	
(AMS)	 Dementia (specify the type & link any 	
Confused	behavior disturbance)	
Disoriented	 E.g. Dementia with delusions 	
	 Psychosis (specify & link) 	
Encephalopathy → Specify the type & etiology:		
	 Toxic, Metabolic, Anoxic, 	
	Hypertensive, Other (specify)	
	 E.g. Toxic encephalopathy 2/2 drug 	
	(specify drug)	
Mass Effects	Cerebral edema	
Midline Shift	Brain compression	
CVA	Acute/Chronic/Acute on Chronic	
	 Location: Hemisphere, Cerebellum, 	
	Intraventricular, etc.	
	 Etiology: Hemorrhage, Thrombosis, 	
	Embolism, Stenosis etc.	
TIA	Thrombus/Embolism of (specify	
	vessel) without infarction	
Residual	Specify the residual effects	
Effects	o E.g. Hx of CVA with R/L	
	Hemiplegia/Hemiparesis	
Bedbound	Functional quadriplegia	
Total Care	 Not a true paresis; however, the patient is immobile because of a 	
(e.g. Severe dementia	severe physical disability/frailty.	
requiring total	 E.g. Functional quadriplegia 2/2 TBI, 	
1 0	bedbound, requiring total care	

Cardiology		
Instead of	Please consider	
CHF	Include Acuity & Type:	
HFiEF	HFpEF/HFrEF (EF<50%)	
HFbEF	 Acute/Chronic/Exacerbation 	
	 E.g. Acute HFrEF exacerbation 2/2 	
	cocaine overdose	
ACS	 STEMI (including the site, if known) 	
Angina	• NSTEMI	
	 CAD with unstable angina 	
A-fib	 Persistent, Paroxysmal, Chronic 	
Elevated Trop	 Suspected cause 	
Troponinemia	o E.g. Type 2 MI 2/2 trauma	
Chest Pain	 Suspected cause, "due to" 	
Syncope	 Suspected cause, "due to" 	
"BP 210/110"	 Hypertensive urgency 	
With end	 Hypertensive emergency 	
organ damage		
Respiratory		
Instead of	Please consider	
Pulmonary	Respiratory Failure and specify:	
Insufficiency	 Acute/Chronic/Acute on Chronic 	
Resp Distress	 With Hypoxia/Hypercapnia 	
Opacities	 PNA (include organism, if known), 	
Infiltrate	Pulmonary Edema, Pleural Effusion,	
Consolidation	Atelectasis, Malignancy	
Aspiration	 Aspiration PNA 	
Pneumosepsis	 Sepsis with/due to PNA 	
COPD	 Exacerbation/Chronic 	
	 With infection, e.g. URI/PNA 	

GI	
Instead of	Please consider
GI Bleed UGIB LGIB	 Acute/Chronic/Acute on Chronic Ulcer w/ hemorrhage (location) Gastritis, Duodenitis with hemorrhage Suspected cause/Source
Free fluid	Ascites
GU	
Instead of	Please consider
Urosepsis	 Sepsis with/due to UTI
Renal Insufficiency 个 BUN/Creat	 UTI/Cystitis/Pyelonephritis Organism, if known Catheter-associated UTI (CAUTI) CKD with Stage AKI AKI w/ ATN ESRD on dialysis Stage GFR 2 60-89 3 30-59 4 15-29 < 15
MSK	
Instead of	Please consider
Fracture	 Site (laterality, which part of bone) Open vs Closed Displaced, Nondisplaced Etiology: Pathologic, Traumatic, Stress
I&D	Excisional or Non-Excisional, Depth,

For questions regarding clinical documentation, please contact

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Approach, Instrument used (see skin)

Debridement

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Skin	
Instead of	Please consider
Bed Sore	Pressure Ulcer
	 Location
	 Stage (1-4, Unstageable)
	POA status
I&D	Please specify:
Debridement	• Site
(Both Bedside	 Excisional or Non-Excisional
& OR)	 Depth: Skin, Subcutaneous, Fascia,
	Muscle, Bone or Tendon
	Approach, Instrument used
Lac Repair	Site, depth (see above)
Erythema	 Suspected cause (e.g. Cellulitis)
Metabolic	
Instead of	Please consider
Na 129	Hyponatremia
Na 129 FTT, Poor	Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition –
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition	Hyponatremia
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin	Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition –
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin	Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above)
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM uncontrolled Fluid/Volume	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above) Type 1 or 2 Diabetes
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM uncontrolled	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above) Type 1 or 2 Diabetes With HHS w/ or w/o Coma
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM uncontrolled Fluid/Volume Overload Drug, EtOH or	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above) Type 1 or 2 Diabetes With HHS w/ or w/o Coma CHF (see cardiology)
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM uncontrolled Fluid/Volume Overload	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above) Type 1 or 2 Diabetes With HHS w/ or w/o Coma CHF (see cardiology) Suspected cause, "due to"
Na 129 FTT, Poor Nutrition Thin Weight Loss Deconditioning DM uncontrolled Fluid/Volume Overload Drug, EtOH or	 Hyponatremia Protein Calorie Malnutrition – Mild/Moderate/Severe Underweight Cachexia Malnutrition (see above) Type 1 or 2 Diabetes With HHS w/ or w/o Coma CHF (see cardiology) Suspected cause, "due to" Specify the substance

Hematology	
Instead of	Please consider
Anemia	 Acute/Chronic/Acute on Chronic
↓ H&H	 Suspected cause: Blood loss, Chronic
↓ Hgb	disease or Chemotherapy
	Hemorrhagic Shock
Oncology	
Instead of	Please consider
Hx of Cancer	Type
	Active, under treatment
	In remission
Infectious Diseas	
Instead of	Please consider
HIV	110000 0011010101
HIV+	Document AIDS if patient meets ONE of the following criteria:
IIIVT	Hx of/current CD4 count <200
	Hx of/current AIDS or HIV-Related
	Illness/OI
SIRS	Sepsis (see below)
311/3	Localized infection
Destanania	Non-infectious cause (trauma)
Bacteremia	Sepsis
21	Localized infection
Please specify Se	•
	• Severity
	 Source (PNA, UTI, local infection, 2/2
	device/graft/procedure, etc.)
	 Organism, if known
	 Organ failure (specify)
	o E.g. Sepsis 2/2 E. coli UTI with AKI