DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD
ARTIFICIAL OPENINGS (OSTOMIES)

Documentation Considerations

- Surgical history alone may not support active ostomy
- Document assessment of opening in physical exam
- Note any surgical reversal with date
- Document physical presence of a catheter or stoma

Diagnosis Considerations

- If surgical reversal has occurred, it is no longer coded as active
- "Status of": artificial opening is present and free of any issues
- "Attention to": adjustment, repositioning, replacement or closure
- "Complications of": infection or obstruction

Additional Considerations

- Note any complications with ostomy site
- Document if any adjustment, modification or replacement of the catheter occurs at the visit
- Note the functional status or any malfunction of artificial opening

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NOTE: This tool is intended to assist with documentation only and not intended to take the place of clinical analysis. Information regarding any law or regulation does not constitute legal or tax advice and is subject to change based upon the issuance of new guidance and/or change in laws or regulations. Reference Official ICD-10-CM coding guidelines and manuals or electronic medical coding software for accurate ICD-10-CM codes and specificity.

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