

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD

KIDNEY DISEASE

Documentation Considerations

- Distinguish acute versus chronic kidney failure
- Always document the stage of the CKD
- Document any associated underlying conditions; such as:
 - Diabetes
 - Hypertension
- Link the underlying condition with CKD in assessment

Diagnosis Considerations

- Identify appropriate combination codes for diabetes mellitus w/ CKD
- Identify appropriate combination codes for hypertension or heart disease w/ CKD
- When CKD staging is documented as a range, the reported code must default to the lowest stage (Example CKD III-IV is coded as CKD Stage 3)

Additional Considerations

- Interpret lab values into appropriate CKD stage
- Update CKD staging as disease progresses
- Document dialysis status or presence of AV fistula when appropriate
- If both acute kidney failure and chronic kidney failure exist, a diagnosis should be assigned for each (they are separate and distinct conditions)



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