

ICD-10 Coding Guidelines for COVID-19  
Effective January 1, 2021

This document provides highlights from the official COVID-19 guidelines and is not all-inclusive. Please refer to the Official CDC Coding Guidelines for more information. We hope this information will be helpful to you.  
<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/2021-coding-guidelines-updated-12162020.pdf>

**OF SPECIAL NOTE:**

**ICD-10-CM codes Z11.59 (Encounter for screening for other viral diseases) and Z11.52 (Encounter for screening for COVID-19)**

✘ These codes are not appropriate to assign for COVID-19 screening during a pandemic. Please refer to the coding guidelines to assign the appropriate code(s).

**ICD-10-CM code U07.2, COVID-19, virus not identified**

✘ This code is not a valid diagnosis in the United States.

<https://www.aha.org/fact-sheets/2020-03-30-frequently-asked-questions-regarding-icd-10-cm-coding-covid-19>

Coding guidance will be updated as new information concerning any changes in the pandemic status becomes available. Click on the CMS link provided often to check the websites for coding updates.

1. Questions to consider when assigning a code(s) for COVID-19

- a. Is the encounter due to an actual or suspected exposure to COVID-19?
- b. Does the patient have COVID-19 related symptoms without a definitive diagnosis of COVID-19?
  - i. Does the patient have an actual or suspected exposure to COVID-19?
- c. Preoperative testing?
- d. Is there a current or recent diagnosis of COVID-19 infection?
- e. Are there any COVID-19 related manifestations or complications?
  - i. Respiratory manifestations?
  - ii. Non-respiratory manifestations?
  - iii. Sepsis, severe sepsis, septic shock?
- f. COVID-19 infection affecting pregnancy, childbirth, or puerperium?
- g. COVID-19 infection in a newborn?
- h. COVID-19 in a patient with a lung transplant?
- i. Does the patient have a history of COVID-19 infection?
- j. Is the encounter for COVID-19 antibody testing?

2. Commonly reported COVID-19 diagnosis codes

- a. Z20.822, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to COVID-19
- b. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19, such as
  - i. R05, Cough
  - ii. R06.02, Shortness of breath
  - iii. R50.9, Fever, unspecified
- c. Z20.822, Preoperative testing
- d. U07.1, COVID-19 infection
- e. M35.81, Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS)
- f. U07.1, COVID-19 infection with respiratory manifestations due to COVID-19
  - i. Example: U07.1, COVID-19 infection and J12.82, Pneumonia due to COVID-19
- g. U07.1, COVID-19 infection and a code for non-respiratory manifestation(s) due to COVID-19
- h. Z86.16, Personal history of COVID-19
- i. Z01.84, Encounter for antibody response examination