

Coding Neoplasm Of Uncertain Behavior

Angela Buckley, CCS, CPC, CPMA, CPC-I, RMA

Problem and Goal

Problem

- Neoplasm of Uncertain Behavior has been provided on the requisition to TriCore as a preliminary diagnosis prior to histologic confirmation.

Goal

- To provide a general understanding of when it is appropriate to use Neoplasm of Uncertain Behavior (D37 - D44 and D48).

Neoplasm of Uncertain Behavior Considerations

- Is this a preliminary diagnosis?
- Has neoplasm of uncertain behavior been established through histologic confirmation?
 - If neoplasm of uncertain behavior has *not* been established through histologic confirmation, please provide an appropriate preliminary diagnosis.
 - Neoplasm of uncertain behavior is a specific code used *after* histologic confirmation cannot determine whether the neoplasm is malignant or benign.
- Please refer to ICD-10 Coding Guidelines for code categories D37 – D44, and D48 for further guidance.
 - ICD-10 Coding Book download
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/2020-ICD-10-CM>
 - ICD-10 Coding Guidelines
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/2020-Coding-Guidelines.pdf>

This is not an all-inclusive list of guidelines and instructions for neoplasm of uncertain behavior.

TriCore does not encourage use of any codes unless they describe the patient's condition and are documented in the patient's chart.