

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The National Institutes of Health\* recommends the term “clinically severe obesity” as a replacement for the term “morbid obesity.”
- The National Institutes of Health\* defines clinically severe obesity as BMI 40 or over, or BMI 35 or over *with* comorbid conditions.
- BMI pediatric codes are for use for persons 2 – 20 years of age. Those codes are based on percentiles. BMI adult codes are for use for persons 21 years of age or older and are based on actual BMI measurement.

## EXAMPLES

(blue font indicates code risk adjusts):

Diagnostic Statement:	ICD-10 Code(s)
Overweight	<b>E66.3</b>
Obese	<b>E66.9</b>
Severe obesity	<b>E66.01</b>
Morbid obesity	<b>E66.01</b>
Pickwickian syndrome	<b>E66.2</b>
Cardiopulmonary-obesity syndrome	<b>E66.2</b>
Alveolar hypoventilation syndrome	<b>E66.2</b>
Morbid obesity, BMI 42	<b>E66.01, Z68.41</b>
Malnutrition	<b>E46</b>
Retarded development following protein-calorie malnutrition	<b>E45</b>
Cachexia, BMI 18.1	<b>R64, Z68.1</b>

## CODING TIPS:

The Z-codes for BMI are to be reported as secondary diagnoses. The associated diagnosis or diagnoses should be documented and coded also.

Body mass index cannot be computed by the coder from height and weight measurements; the BMI must be specifically documented for the code to be submitted.

## DOCUMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

Document any weight changes and period of time for weight change.

Document to the highest specificity. Is the obesity severe? Is the malnutrition mild? Moderate?

## Examples of diagnosis documentation:

BMI 36.2, severe obesity [E66.01, Z68.36]

Wasting syndrome – BMI 17.5 [R64, Z68.1]

Moderate protein-calorie malnutrition [E44.0]

Severe malnutrition with marasmus, BMI 16 [E41, Z68.1]

Excessive weight gain, BMI now 31 [R63.5, Z68.31]

Weight loss - BMI 26.3 [R63.4, Z68.26]

## QUALITY REPORTING -

### Examples of commonly used codes:

- G8417 BMI is documented above normal parameters and a follow-up plan is documented
- G8418 BMI is documented below normal parameters and a follow-up plan is documented
- G8430 BMI is documented within normal parameters and no follow-up plan is required
- 3008F Body Mass Index (BMI), documented

### Intensive Behavioral Therapy (IBT) for Obesity

- **G0447** - Face-to-face behavioral counseling for obesity, 15 minutes
- **G0473** - Face-to-face behavioral counseling for obesity, group (2 – 10), 30 minutes

*IBT codes not covered by Medicaid. See Medicare guidelines for coverage details.*

\* *Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults.* NIH Publication No. 00-4084. Available at [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/guidelines/prctgd\\_c.pdf](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/guidelines/prctgd_c.pdf)