

## Co-Morbid Condition explanations (as of 04/10/2014)

1. Other—essentially you can use this for anything that is not on the list. If you have a space for comments you would then define “other” so that you will know later what you mean.
2. Alcoholism – You are looking for chronic use, often with a history of withdrawal...so you would not mark this for every patient with an elevated alcohol level—just for the ones with a history of actual abuse.
3. Ascites within 30 days—You are looking for patients who say they have been to the doctor within the last month and had an exam, an ultrasound or a CT/MRI that said they have fluid in the abdomen that is not blood.
4. Bleeding disorder – Two things to look for here—first, is your patient on a medication such as Plavix/Clopidogrel or Coumadin/Warfarin? If so, you select this co-morbid. You also want to mark this for disorders like hemophilia, vitamin K deficiency, and thrombocytopenia.
5. Currently receiving chemotherapy for cancer—this is selected for patients who are still on chemotherapy. You do not want to select this for patients who ended their treatment even if it just ended a few months prior.
6. Congenital anomalies—I have attached a list of some of them.—this is where you would indicate that your patient has Down’s syndrome, dwarfism and cystic fibrosis for example. You should scan the list and make sure you are not putting these under “other” because you were unsure where they should go.
7. Congestive Heart Failure –You want to look for the diagnosis of CHF, congestive heart failure or pulmonary edema with worsening symptoms such as fatigue, dyspnea or cardiomegaly within the last 30 days
8. Current smoker – This should be selected only for those patients who smoke cigarettes. The number of cigarettes per day is not important, but you should not select this for patients who smoke pipes, cigars or use chewing tobacco or snuff.
9. Chronic renal failure – This is selected for patients with acute or chronic renal failure who are on periodic peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, hemofiltration or hemodiafiltration.
10. CVA/residual neurological deficit – This would be for any patient who has had a stroke/CVA who still has some deficit. Look for hemiplegia, hemiparesis, aphasia, sensory deficit, impaired memory, weakness, etc. that is related to the stroke.
11. Diabetes Mellitus – Use this code for any patient who has been diagnosed with diabetes and takes medication for it. You would not want patients here who say they are borderline or diet controlled here if they are not taking prescribed medication to treat their diabetes.

12. Disseminated cancer – You are looking for patients who have cancer that has spread from one site to another and is “widespread”, “diffuse”, “widely metastatic” or “carcinomatosis”.
13. Advanced directive limiting care – Did the patient arrive with a DNR already written? If so you would select this co-morbid. You would not if, for example, on hospital day 10 the decision was made to make your patient a DNR.
14. Esophageal varices – These are enlarged abnormal veins in the lower esophagus. Look for this in patients who also have a diagnosis such as liver disease/failure, cirrhosis, and portal hypertension.
15. Functionally dependent health status—This would include all your nursing home patients, those on dialysis, home ventilator support, and any patient who requires help or equipment for any activities of daily living and it does not matter if they are partially or totally dependent.
16. History of angina within 30 days – Look for this in patients who have a history of stable or unstable angina or chest pain—but only if they have had symptoms within the last 30 days. Pay attention to patients who say, for example, that they had to take their nitroglycerine last week for chest pain. You would not select this for patients who say they had trouble with this a year ago and it resolved....only patients who are having recent symptoms.
17. History of Myocardial Infarction – This is only for patients who have had a diagnosed non-Q wave or Q-wave MI within the last six months prior to injury. This would not be selected for patients who have had an MI more than six months ago.
18. History of PVD – This would be selected for patients who have PVD only if they have required treatment by operation, angioplasty or revascularization. Look for mention of stenting, balloon angioplasty, aorta-femoral / femoral-femoral / femoral-popliteal bypass, etc. You would not select this for patients who have had repairs of abdominal aortic aneurysms or who have required vascular repair in the past due to trauma.
19. Hypertension requiring medication – You are looking for patients who say they have hypertension and also take medication for it. (diuretics, beta blockers, angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, calcium channel blockers.) You would not include patients who say they have borderline hypertension but are not prescribed medication for it.
21. Prematurity – Any patient who was born earlier than 37 weeks gestation, who required the vent for more than 7 days following birth or those diagnosed with bronchopulmonary dysplasia.
22. Any patient with a BMI of 30 or greater. This one is commonly missed so it is also important to list your patient’s height and weight in your record as a backup.

23. Respiratory Disease – You want to select this for patients with severe and chronic lung disease such as COPD, emphysema and chronic bronchitis. You want to pay attention here and, if this condition causes functional disability also select the co-morbid for functionally dependent health status. Also watch for patients who take steroids for this condition and make sure you also select steroid use as a co-morbid. Sarcoidosis and diffuse interstitial fibrosis are excluded from this co-morbid.

24. Steroid Use – This is for oral or parenteral corticosteroids (like prednisone, methylprednisolone, dexamethasone, etc.) that are taken on a regular basis. You would not select this for topical or inhaled medications. Watch for this when your patients are listed with COPD, asthma, rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease.

25. Cirrhosis – You will select this not only for documentation of cirrhosis and end stage liver disease, but also presume and select it for patients who are diagnosed with esophageal or gastric varices, portal hypertension, previous hepatic encephalopathy or ascites with liver disease.

26. Dementia -- Select this for patients with documentation of senile or vascular dementia such as Alzheimer's.

27. Major Psychiatric Illness – Select this for patients with documented major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, anxiety / panic disorder, borderline/antisocial personality disorder or adjustment disorder / PTSD that was present pre-injury. (so if your patient develops a new major depression in response to this injury you would not list this as a co-morbid)

28. – Drug Abuse or Dependency – This is the indicator for abuse or dependency for opiates, sedatives, amphetamines, cocaine, etc. You would not select this for patients on chronic pain therapy or meds for ADD/ADHD who are taking their medications as prescribed.

29. Pre-Hospital Cardiac Arrest with CPR – Select this for all patients who have coded / had CPR prior to arriving at your facility.

### Field Values

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2. Alcoholism
3. Ascites within 30 days
4. Bleeding disorder
5. Currently receiving chemotherapy for cancer
6. Congenital anomalies
7. Congestive heart failure
8. Current smoker
9. Chronic renal failure
10. CVA/residual neurological deficit
11. Diabetes mellitus
12. Disseminated cancer
13. Advanced directive limiting care
14. Esophageal varices
15. Functionally dependent health status
16. History of angina within 30 days
17. History of myocardial infarction
18. History of PVD
19. Hypertension requiring medication
20. ~~RETIRED 2012 Impaired sensorium~~
21. Prematurity
22. Obesity
23. Respiratory disease
24. Steroid use
25. Cirrhosis
26. Dementia
27. Major psychiatric illness
28. Drug or dependence
29. Pre-hospital cardiac arrest with resuscitative efforts by healthcare provider