



HCC Coding Alternatives - Hypertension

Essential (primary) hypertension (I10) is not an HCC code, meaning this diagnosis does not contribute to a patient's risk score if reported. In ICD-10, a causal relationship is presumed between HTN and heart involvement and between HTN and kidney involvement, as the two conditions are linked by the term “with” in the Alphabetic Index. These conditions should be coded as related even in the absence of provider documentation explicitly linking them, unless the documentation clearly states the conditions are unrelated. However, it will be helpful for your coders if you choose the most appropriate and specific HCC code to put on the encounter form.

Instead of...		RAF:
I10	Essential (primary) hypertension	0.00
Consider (when clinically relevant)...		RAF:
I11.0	Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure	0.323
I11.9	Hypertensive heart disease without heart failure	0.000
I12.0	Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or end stage renal disease	0.237
I12.9	Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease	0.000
I13.10	Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease without heart failure, with stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease	0.000
I13.11	Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease without heart failure, with stage 5 chronic kidney disease, or end stage renal disease	0.237
I13.2	Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure and with stage 5 chronic kidney disease, or end stage renal disease	0.323
I27.0	Primary pulmonary hypertension	0.323

Important Notes:

- When applicable, use additional code(s) to identify type of heart failure (I50.-) and/or stage of CKD (N18.-).
- Although I11.9, I12.9 and I13.10 do not have a RAF, these codes are still important, as they should prompt the reporting of other conditions related to HTN, such as myocarditis /myocardial disease (HCCs), CKD, and heart failure.
- If a patient has hypertensive chronic kidney disease and acute renal failure, the acute renal failure should also be coded. Sequence according to the circumstances of the admission/ encounter.