

Documentation and Reporting Aortic Ectasia & Aneurysms

DOCUMENTATION TIPS

Aortic ectasia and aneurysms are often incidental findings in CT scans. These conditions cannot be reported based on the radiological procedure alone. The provider must bring the diagnosis into the progress note and document the pertinent findings and treatment.

Diagnosis:

- **Site:** ascending, descending, abdominal, thoracic, thoracoabdominal
- **Severity:** ectasia, aneurysm
- **Contributing factors:** atherosclerosis, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, tobacco use
- **Complications:** dissection, rupture

Status: stable, worsening, requires surgery

Plan: monitor, referral to specialist

Aortic ectasia (not an all-inclusive list)

ICD-10-CM Code	Description
I77.810	Thoracic aortic ectasia
I77.811	Abdominal aortic ectasia
I77.812	Thoracoabdominal aortic ectasia
I77.819	Aortic ectasia, unspecified site

Aneurysms (not an all-inclusive list)

ICD-10-CM Code	Description	ICD-10-CM Code	Description
I71.1	Thoracic aortic aneurysm, ruptured	I72.0	Aneurysm of carotid artery
I71.2	Thoracic aortic aneurysm without rupture	I72.2	Aneurysm of renal artery
I71.3	Abdominal aortic aneurysm, ruptured	I72.3	Aneurysm of iliac artery
I71.4	Abdominal aortic aneurysm without rupture	I72.4	Aneurysm of artery of lower extremity
I71.5	Thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm, ruptured	I72.5	Aneurysm of other precrebral arteries
I71.6	Thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm, without rupture	I72.6	Aneurysm of vertebral arteries

ICD-10-CM Code	Description	ICD-10-CM Code	Description
I71.8	Aortic aneurysm of unspecified site, ruptured	I72.8	Aneurysm of other specified arteries
I71.9	Aortic aneurysm of unspecified site without rupture	I72.9	Aneurysm of unspecified site

Document a surgically repaired aneurysm and report Z86.79 Personal history of other diseases of the circulatory system.

DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING EXAMPLE

CT scan, 2/25/2021 shows abdominal aortic aneurysm, 4 cm. Referral to cardiologist. Repeat CT scan in 6 months. BP 150/80. Hypertension, continue Lisinopril 10 mg, q.d.

I71.4 Abdominal aortic aneurysm, without rupture
I10 Hypertension

According to the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY2022: “A dash (-) at the end of an alphabetic index entry indicates that additional characters are required.” Refer to the tabular list to identify the appropriate character(s) that will complete the diagnosis code.

1. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY2022. 1 Oct. 2021, www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2022-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines.pdf. Accessed 30 Nov. 2021.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Aortic Aneurysm Fact Sheet. https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/aortic_aneurysm.htm Accessed September 29, 2021.