

Documentation & Coding Tips: Major Depressive Disorder

DSM-5 Criteria for Major Depressive Disorder:

The individual must be experiencing five or more symptoms during the same 2-week period and at least one of the symptoms should be either (1) depressed mood or (2) loss of interest or pleasure.

- Decreased interest or pleasure in most activities, most of each day
- Depressed mood or irritable most of the day
- Fatigue or loss of energy
- Significant weight change (5 percent) or change in appetite
- Change in sleep: Insomnia or hypersomnia
- Change in activity: Psychomotor agitation or retardation
- Guilt/worthlessness: feeling of worthlessness or excessive inappropriate guilt
- Concentration: diminished ability to think or concentrate, or more indecisiveness
- Suicidality: thoughts of death or suicide, or has suicide plan

Documentation and Coding Guidance

Documentation needs to be clear and detailed using the following terms to allow accurate ICD-10 code selection

Specificity:

- Episode Type: Single or recurrent episode
- Current state:
 - New onset
 - Partial remission: patient without any significant symptoms for less than two months timeframe
 - Full remission: patient has no significant depressive symptoms present during the last two months or more
- Severity: mild, moderate, severe, severe with psychotic features

Treatment: Document treatment (medication, psychotherapy, or a combination of both) and current response to treatment.

Documentation Best Practices

Document components necessary to capture the severity of illness in your patients with depression:

- Episode: Single or Recurrent
 - Depression is considered recurrent at the second single episode.
 - Depression is recurrent if patient is currently on prescribed medication or receiving therapy services.
- Activity: Current, Partial remission, Full remission
 - Consider “in remission” rather than “history of” if patient was previously diagnosed with depression but is currently without symptoms.
- Severity: Mild, Moderate, Severe with psychotic symptoms, Severe without psychotic features

ICD 10 Code	Description: Major Depressive Disorder (MDD), single episode	ICD 10 Code	Description: Major Depressive Disorder (MDD), recurrent
F32.0	“ “, mild	F33.0	“ “, mild
F32.1	“ “, moderate	F33.1	“ “, moderate
F32.2	“ “, severe without psychotic features	F33.2	“ “, severe without psychotic features
F32.3	“ “, severe with psychotic features	F33.3	“ “, severe with psychotic features
F32.4	“ “, in partial remission	F33.40	“ “, in remission, unspecified
F32.5	“ “, in full remission	F33.41	“ “, in remission, in partial remission
F32.9	“ “, unspecified	F33.42	“ “, in remission, in full remission
		F33.9	“ “, unspecified

Other Depression ICD-10 codes

- F32A = Depression, unspecified
- F32.81 = Premenstrual dysphoric disorder
- F32.89 = Other specified depressive episodes
- F33.8 = Other recurrent depressive disorders
- F34.9 = Persistent mood (affective) disorder, unspecified