

Internal Medicine Coding Alert

News Brief: New E Codes Created to Track Terrorism Injuries

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has developed a new series of E codes for reporting injuries resulting from acts of terrorism. These new ICD-9 codes, published in the May 8 Federal Register, take effect Oct. 1, 2002. The codes were developed in response to the Sept. 11 terrorism and range from E979.0 to E979.9.

A code for reporting late effects of injuries due to terrorism (E999.1) is also included. Internists and other physicians should not use these E codes on their own. The federal government will designate whether any future incidents are terrorism-related and thus subject to these codes. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/otheract/icd9/terrorism_code.htm#Implementation%20Process.