

Eli's Rehab Report

Find Your Place in History

The following chart outlines the various levels of history that you must document to report the corresponding E/M code. Note that history is just one E/M element that determines your code level. You must also document the appropriate examination and medical decision-making elements to justify reporting these codes.

A problem-focused history ([CPT 99201](#)) includes:

1. Chief complaint
2. Brief history of present illness (one to three elements)
3. No review of systems or past, family or social history is required

An expanded problem-focused history (99202) includes:

4. Chief complaint
5. Brief history of present illness (one to three elements)
6. Problem-pertinent review of systems (one system)
7. No past, family, social history is required

A detailed history (99203) includes:

8. Chief complaint
9. Extended history of present illness (four or more elements, or three or more chronic or inactive conditions if 1997 Medicare E/M guidelines are being followed)
10. Problem-pertinent system review extended to include a review of a limited number of additional systems (two to nine systems)
11. Pertinent past, family, and/or social history directly related to the patient's problems (one or two areas of history)

A comprehensive history (99204, 99205) includes:

12. Chief complaint
13. Extended history of present illness
14. Review of systems that is directly related to the problem(s) identified in the history of the present illness plus a review of all additional body systems (more than 10 systems)
15. Complete past, family and social history (two or three history areas).

