

## Eli's Rehab Report

### Reader Question: Diagnosis Code for Inability To Sit

**Question:** The physiatrist wrote a diagnosis on a patients chart for patient unable to sit. Is there an ICD-9 Code for this?

Washington Subscriber

**Answer:** There is no specific diagnosis code for the inability to sit. This would be a description of the patients symptoms, but you need to determine the cause of the symptoms to choose an ICD-9 code to bill for the doctors services. In this case, ask the physiatrist whether he determined the cause of the patients inability to sit. Even if the physiatrist has to run more tests before finding a specific cause of the inability, he may be able to tell you more about why the patient cant sit, and this should point you in the right direction. For instance, if the patient has joint pain when trying to sit down (719.4) or muscle pain (729.1) when trying to sit down, you can submit the claim for the visit using those ICD-9 codes.