

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

Reader Questions: Look to Late Effects for CVA

Question: Our patient had a cerebrovascular accident with right-sided hemiparesis. He has right-side weakness (he is right-sided dominant), aphasia, and has experienced frequent falls. We are providing physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. How should I code for him?

-- Kentucky Subscriber

Answer: Code for CVAs with late-effect codes. In your patient's case, list:

- M0230a: 438.21 (Late effects of cerebrovascular disease; hemiplegia affecting dominant side);
- M0240b: 438.11 (Late effects of cerebrovascular disease; aphasia); and
- M0240c: V15.88 (History of fall).

Don't code the weakness separately because it's integral to the hemiparesis/hemiplegia.