

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

READER QUESTIONS :Use Two Codes for Mouth Ulcerations Due to Radiation

Question: What is the correct diagnosis code for mouth ulcerations secondary to radiation?

-- Massachusetts Subscriber

Answer: Mouth ulcerations such as the ones you are describing are called stomatitis or mucositis. The specific code when caused by radiation and/or anti-neoplastic therapy is 528.01 (Mucositis [ulcerative] due to antineoplastic therapy). Coding instructions for this code direct you to list an additional code when the ulcerations are caused by radiation. Add the code E879.2 (Radiological procedure and radiotherapy, without mention of misadventure at the time of procedure, as the cause of abnormal reaction of patient, or of later complication) to show the cause of the patient's stomatitis.