

Pain Management Coding Alert

You Be the Coder: Choosing a Metatarsalgia Dx

Question: What are the ICD-10 options for reporting metatarsalgia?

Florida Subscriber

Answer: Your ICD-10 options for reporting metatarsalgia are as follows:

- M77.40 (Metatarsalgia, unspecified foot)
- M77.41 (Metatarsalgia, right foot)
- M77.42 (Metatarsalgia, left foot).

When a patient has metatarsalgia the ball of his foot, the metatarsal, becomes painful and inflamed. Metatarsalgia may result in pain, tenderness, and swelling. Some causes of this condition are obesity, poorly fitting shoes, or intense training/activity.

To diagnose metatarsalgia, providers look at the patient's history of pain, conduct a physical exam to check for a deformity on the ball of the foot, and use x-rays, MRIs, and ultrasounds. Treatment options for this condition include medication; lifestyle modifications; orthosis or strapping to provide support and reduce stress; physical exercise to improve the range of motion, flexibility, and strength of the muscles; or surgery.