

Specified Heart Arrhythmias - Hierarchical Condition Category (HCC) 96

HCC 96, Specified Heart Arrhythmias, has become Security Health Plan's Medicare Advantage HCC category with the most gaps in diagnostic coding when compared to other categories. The ICD 10 diagnosis codes that support HCC 96 include the following:

- Atrioventricular block, complete
- Re-entry ventricular arrhythmia
- Tachycardia - supraventricular, ventricular or paroxysmal
- Atrial fibrillation – paroxysmal, persistent, chronic or unspecified
- Atrial flutter – typical, atypical or unspecified
- Junctional premature depolarization
- Sick sinus syndrome

These diagnoses are rarely omitted in documentation and coding when the patient is experiencing an acute exacerbation. Most HCC 96 coding gaps occur when your patient's symptoms are quiescent. If the condition is present but stable with treatment, such as medication, cardiac device or other therapy, it is acceptable to document and code for the condition.

You may refer your patient to an anticoagulation clinic for management of anticoagulant therapy to treat your patient's arrhythmia. While nurses in these clinics do a great job caring for your patient, their documentation and coding is not acceptable to support HCC coding. Ultimately, you are responsible for the management of your patient and the clinical oversight of the nurses caring for your patient. In this scenario, it is appropriate for the provider to document and code the patient's arrhythmia, referencing management by the anticoagulation clinic when seeing the patient face to face.

Additional information related to HCC coding is available at <https://www.securityhealth.org/providers/hcc>