

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

Documentation and coding: Individual & Family Plans

For coding education questions, email CignaHealthcareHCPEducation@CignaHealthcare.com.

It's important to accurately document and code diagnoses when submitting claims for your customers with Cigna Healthcare-administered coverage. This helps ensure your diagnosis and coding practices comply with all applicable legal requirements,¹ while enabling us to provide our customers with the benefits and resources they need.

The information that follows is designed to provide guidance for the documentation and coding of claims for your patients with inflammatory bowel disease. It is not meant to replace your judgment when caring for your patients.

Definitions

Irritable bowel disease² (IBD)

IBD is chronic inflammation of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract affecting bowel tissue. The two most common types of IBD are Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

• Crohn's disease

- It can affect any part of the GI tract, but mostly starts in the small intestine first.
- The damaged area appears in patches in the GI tract.
- Inflammation may reach multiple layers of the GI wall.

• Ulcerative colitis

- It can affect the large intestine to the rectum.
- The damaged area appears to be continuous.
- Inflammation is in the innermost lining of the colon.

Irritable bowel syndrome³ (IBS)

IBS affects the GI tract but does not change the bowel tissue. Signs and symptoms include:

- Changes in bowel habits.
- Bloating and gas.

Documentation and coding

- Document and use International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes to describe the highest level of specificity.
- Document the type of treatment plan.
- Code manifestations, such as pyoderma gangrenosum.³
- Support the diagnosis of IBD by documenting current medications² and treatments such as:
 - 5-aminosalicylic acids.
 - Biologics.
 - Corticosteroids.
 - Immunomodulators.
 - Surgery to remove damaged portions of the GI tract.

Crohn's disease of small intestine

Crohn's disease of large intestine

Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine

ICD-10 code	Description	ICD-10 code	Description	ICD-10 code	Description
K50.00	Without complications	K50.10	Without complications	K50.80	Without complications
K50.011	With rectal bleeding	K50.111	With rectal bleeding	K50.811	With rectal bleeding
K50.013	With fistula	K50.113	With fistula	K50.813	With fistula
K50.014	With abscess	K50.114	With abscess	K50.814	With abscess
K50.018	With other complication	K50.118	With other complication	K50.818	With other complication
K50.019	With unspecified complications	K50.119	With unspecified complications	K50.819	With unspecified complications

1. Diagnosis inaccuracies that are not addressed can result in administrative sanctions and potential financial penalties.
2. "What is inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)?" Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 13 April 2022. Retrieved from: [https://www.CDC.gov/ibd/what-is-IBD.htm#:~:text=Inflammatory%20bowel%20disease%20\(IBD\)%20is,damage%20to%20the%20GI%20tract.](https://www.CDC.gov/ibd/what-is-IBD.htm#:~:text=Inflammatory%20bowel%20disease%20(IBD)%20is,damage%20to%20the%20GI%20tract.)
3. "Irritable Bowel Syndrome." Mayo Clinic. 12 May 2023. Retrieved from <https://www.MayoClinic.org/diseases-conditions/irritable-bowel-syndrome/symptoms-causes/syc-20360016>.



Inflammatory polyps of colon

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.40	Without complications
K50.411	With rectal bleeding
K50.413	With fistula
K50.414	With abscess
K50.418	With other complication
K50.419	With unspecified complications

Left-sided colitis

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.50	Without complications
K50.511	With rectal bleeding
K50.513	With fistula
K50.514	With abscess
K50.518	With other complication
K50.519	With unspecified complications

Other ulcerative colitis

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.80	Without complications
K51.811	With rectal bleeding
K51.813	With fistula
K51.814	With abscess
K51.818	With other complication
K51.819	With unspecified complications

Ulcerative colitis, unspecified

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.90	Unspecified, without complications
K50.911	With rectal bleeding
K50.913	With fistula
K50.914	With abscess
K50.918	With other complication
K50.919	With unspecified complications

GI transplant status

ICD-10 code	Description
T86.850	Intestine transplant rejection
T86.851	Intestine transplant failure
T86.852	Intestine transplant infection
T86.858	Other complications of intestine transplant
T86.859	Unspecified complication of intestine transplant
Z94.82	Intestine transplant status

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)

ICD-10 code	Description
K58.0	IBS with diarrhea
K58.1	IBS with constipation
K58.2	Mixed IBS
K58.8	Other IBS
K58.9	IBS without diarrhea (IBS not other specified)

Crohn's disease, unspecified

ICD-10 code	Description
K50.90	Without complications
K50.911	With rectal bleeding
K50.913	With fistula
K50.914	With abscess
K50.918	With other complication
K50.919	With unspecified complications

Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.00	Without complications
K51.011	With rectal bleeding
K51.013	With fistula
K51.014	With abscess
K51.018	With other complication
K51.019	With unspecified complications

Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.20	Without complications
K51.211	With rectal bleeding
K51.213	With fistula
K51.214	With abscess
K51.218	With other complication
K51.219	With unspecified complications

Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis

ICD-10 code	Description
K51.30	Without complications
K51.311	With rectal bleeding
K51.313	With fistula
K51.314	With abscess
K51.318	With other complication
K51.319	With unspecified complications

