

## Coding and Documentation Tips for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

ICD-10 Codes	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and other chronic lung diseases
<b>J41.0</b>	Simple Chronic Bronchitis
<b>J41.1</b>	Mucopurulent Chronic Bronchitis
<b>J41.8</b>	Mixed Simple and Mucopurulent Chronic Bronchitis
<b>J42</b>	Unspecified Chronic Bronchitis
<b>J43.8</b>	Other Emphysema
<b>J43.9</b>	Emphysema, unspecified
<b>J44.0</b>	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with (acute lower respiratory infection)
<b>J44.1</b>	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with (acute exacerbation)
<b>J44.9</b>	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, unspecified
<b>J47.0</b>	Bronchiectasis with (acute lower respiratory infection)
<b>J47.1</b>	Bronchiectasis with (acute exacerbation)
<b>J47.9</b>	Bronchiectasis, uncomplicated
<b>J84.9</b>	Interstitial Pulmonary Disease, unspecified
<b>J98.2</b>	Interstitial Emphysema
<b>J98.3</b>	Compensatory Emphysema
<b>F17.200</b>	Nicotine Dependence, unspecified, uncomplicated
<b>Z87.891</b>	Personal History of Nicotine Dependence

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which includes chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is a long-term lung disease that makes it hard to breathe. The disease affects millions of Americans and is the third leading cause of disease-related death in the U.S.<sup>1</sup>

The term “**COPD**” is broad and non-specific. Document the condition to the highest level of specificity (if known)

For example:

- Chronic Bronchitis
- Emphysema
- Chronic Obstructive Asthma

**Chronic Obstructive Bronchitis** is chronic bronchitis with airflow obstruction.

**Chronic bronchitis is defined as productive cough on most days of the week for at least a three-month total duration in two successive years.**<sup>2</sup>

**Avoid Documenting Symptoms Only.**

Patient presents with “cough” on most days of the week for three months, during the last two years. Assessment/Plan: Cough

Patient presents with “cough” on most days of the week for three months, during the last two years. Assessment/Plan: **Chronic Bronchitis**

**Emphysema** is a slow, progressive destruction of the lung tissue, which losses its elasticity and ability to expand and contract.

**Coding Scenario:**

1. 80-year-old female patient presenting with mucopurulent chronic bronchitis and smokes one pack of cigarettes daily.

Patient counseled on dangers of smoking and will follow up with a chest X-ray and pulmonologist visit. Continue to use inhaler as needed.

- J41.1 Mucopurulent Chronic Bronchitis
- F17.200 Nicotine Dependence, unspecified, uncomplicated

2. Patient is having shortness of breath with acute exacerbation of COPD. States she has had worsening shortness of breath for 24 hrs. Continue Symbicort inhaler; two puffs twice a day.

- J44.1 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with (acute exacerbation)

3. Final diagnosis: Bronchiectasis with acute bronchitis, follow up with pulmonologist and schedule chest X-ray.

- J47.0 Bronchiectasis with (acute lower respiratory infection)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lung.org/lung-health-and-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/copd/learn-about-copd/how-serious-is-copd.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.merckmanuals.com/professional/pulmonary-disorders/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-and-related-disorders/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-copd>