Struggling with Z codes?

08/20/2024 2:22 pm FDT

Z Codes

CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) has recently released a graphic that could help shed some light.

https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-2023-omh-z-code-resource.pdf

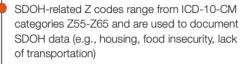
Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data with ICD-10-CM Z Codes



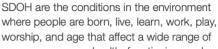
What Are Z Codes?



What Are SDOH & Why Collect Them?



Z codes refer to factors influencing health status or reasons for contact with health services that are not classifiable elsewhere as diseases, injuries, or external causes

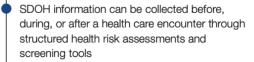


health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks¹

The World Health
Organization (WHO)
estimates that SDOH
accounts for **30-55% of**health outcomes²



Using Z Codes for SDOH



- These codes should be assigned only when the documentation specifies that the patient has an associated problem or risk factor that influences the patient's health
- Coding professionals may utilize documentation of social information from social workers, community health workers, case managers, or nurses, if their documentation is included in the official medical record
- SDOH information can be collected through person-provider interaction or self-reported, as long as it is signed-off on and incorporated into the medical record by a clinician or provider
- It is important to screen for SDOH information at each health care encounter to understand circumstances that may have changed in the patient's status

VIEW JOURNEY MAP



¹ Healthy People 2030

² World Health Organization

go.cms.gov/OMH

For Questions Contact: The CMS Health Equity Technical Assistance Program | ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2024



Collecting SDOH can improve equity in health care delivery and research by:

- Empowering providers to identify and address health disparities (e.g., care coordination and referrals)
- Supporting quality measurement
- Supporting planning and implementation of social needs interventions
- Identifying community and population needs
- Monitoring SDOH intervention effectiveness for patient outcomes
- Utilizing data to advocate for updating and creating new policies



ICD-10-CM Z Codes Update

- New SDOH Z codes may become effective each April 1 and October 1. New codes are announced prior to their effective date on <u>CDC website</u>
- Use the CDC National Center for Health Statistics <u>ICD-10-CM Browser tool</u> to search for all the current Z codes.
- Join the public process for SDOH code development and approval through the ICD-10-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee





Exhibit 1. Recent SDOH Z Code Categories and New Codes

Z55 - Problems related to education and literacy

- Z55.5 Less than a high school diploma (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- NEW

 Z55.6 Problems related to health literacy
- Z56 Problems related to employment and unemployment
- Z57 Occupational exposure to risk factors
- Z58 Problems related to physical environment (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
 - Z58.6 Inadequate drinking-water supply (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- NEW > Z58.8 Other problems related to physical environment
 - NEW > Z58.81 Basic services unavailable in physical environment
 - Z58.89 Other problems related to physical environment

Z59 - Problems related to housing and economic circumstances

- Z59.0 Homelessness (Updated)
 - Z59.00 Homelessness unspecified (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
 - Z59.01 Sheltered homelessness (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
 - Z59.02 Unsheltered homelessness (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- Z59.1 Inadequate Housing (Updated)
- NEW Z59.10 Inadequate housing, unspecified
- NEW

 Z59.11 Inadequate housing environmental temperature
- NEW Z59.12 Inadequate housing utilities
- NEW Z59.19 Other inadequate housing
- Z59.4 Lack of adequate food (Updated)
 - Z59.41 Food insecurity (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
 - Z59.48 Other specified lack of adequate food (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- Z59.8 Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances (Updated)
 - Z59.81 Housing instability, housed (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
 - Z59.811 Housing instability, housed, with risk of homelessness (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)

- Z59.812 Housing instability, housed, homelessness in past 12 months (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- Z59.819 Housing instability, housed unspecified (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)
- Z59.82 Transportation insecurity (Added, Oct. 1, 2022)
- Z59.86 Financial insecurity (Added, Oct. 1, 2022)
- Z59.87 Material hardship due to limited financial resources, not elsewhere classified (Added, Oct. 1, 2022; Revised, April 1, 2023)
- Z59.89 Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances (Added, Oct. 1, 2021)

Z60 - Problems related to social environment

Z62 - Problems related to upbringing

- Z62.2 Upbringing away from parents
- NEW ► Z62.23 Child in custody of non-parental relative (Added, Oct. 1, 2023)
- Z62.24 Child in custody of non-relative guardian (Added, Oct. 1, 2023)
- Z62.8 Other specified problems related to upbringing (Updated)
 - Z62.81 Personal history of abuse in childhood
 - Z62.814 Personal history of child financial abuse
 - Z62.815 Personal history of intimate partner abuse in childhood
 - Z62.82 Parent-child conflict
 - Z62.823 Parent-step child conflict (Added, Oct. 1, 2023)
 - Z62.83 Non-parental relative or guardian-child conflict (Added Oct. 1, 2023)
 - Z62.831 Non-parental relative-child conflict (Added Oct. 1, 2023)
 - NEW Z62.832 Non-relative guardian-child conflict (Added Oct. 1, 2023)
 - Z62.833 Group home staff-child conflict (Added Oct. 1, 2023)
 - Z62.89 Other specified problems related to upbringing
 - Z62.892 Runaway [from current living environment] (Added Oct. 1, 2023)
- Z63 Other problems related to primary support group, including family circumstances
- Z64 Problems related to certain psychosocial circumstance
- Z65 Problems related to other psychosocial circumstances