DECREASED BLOOD GLUCOSE HYPOGLYCEMIA

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PROPOSAL FOR NEW ICD-10-CM CODES FOR HYPOGLYCEMIA LEVELS

Current Coding of Hypoglycemia

- There are ICD-10-CM tabular codes to report hypoglycemia within or associated with another disease state or hypoglycemia individually.
- Our request has no impact on current coding of patients with hypoglycemia or hypoglycemic disease states.

What are we requesting?

- We seek to separately establish three ICD-10-CM codes corresponding to hypoglycemia “levels” defined by a multi-stakeholder consensus process.
- We seek to utilize the established tabular notation to the current codes in chapters ICD-10-CM chapters 4 and 16: “Use additional code for hypoglycemia level, if applicable”

Why are we asking for these ICD-10-CM Codes?

- Accurate measurement of the hypoglycemic population as it relates to care management and the use of technology.
- Ability to conduct effective research, epidemiological studies, and clinical trials for all hypoglycemic patients with and without diabetes.
- Accurate capture of resource utilization in hypoglycemic patients.

WHO CREATED THE LEVEL SYSTEM?

The level system was created under the International Hypoglycemia Study Group (IHSG) by leading experts from the following clinical groups and non-profit organizations:

- American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
- Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists
- American Diabetes Association
- Endocrine Society
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) International
- The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust
- Pediatric Endocrine Society
- T1D Exchange
- International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes

The Level System was published in endocrine and diabetic journals and has been adopted into the standards of care by the American Diabetes Association and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists.

DEFINING THE HYPOGLYCEMIA LEVELS HYPOGLYCEMIA SEVERITY LEVELS ESTABLISHED BY IHSG BLOOD GLUCOSE

Level	Hypoglycemic Criteria/Description for Clinical Interpretation
Level 1	Glucose <70 mg/dL (3.9 mmol/L) and glucose ≥54 mg/dL (3.0 mmol/L)
Level 2	Glucose <54 mg/dL (3.0 mmol/L)
Level 3	A severe event characterized by altered mental and/or physical status requiring assistance. (No laboratory hypoglycemic threshold established)

Source click to access: https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/40/12/1622/36909/Standardizing-Clinically-Meaningful-Outcome

WHY WAS THE LEVEL SYSTEM CREATED?

- Historically, and in some current practice, clinical hypoglycemia was/is documented with subjective terms such as “mild”, “moderate”, or “severe”
- The 2017 consensus statement created an objective classification system. The glucose levels translate from specific laboratory values or a physiologic state to natural, whole numbers termed Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3.
- The level system applies, regardless of condition. Hypoglycemia largely occurs in Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes patients, but hypoglycemia can also occur in patients without diabetes, including:
  - Pancreatic carcinoma patients
  - Benign insulinoma patients
  - Post bariatric surgery patients
  - Chemotherapy patients
  - Neonates
  - Occasionally hypoglycemia can be idiopathic in origin
  - Glycogen Storage Disease
  - Congenital Hyperinsulinism

FINAL REVIEW OF REQUESTED ICD-10-CM CODING

- Hypoglycemia “level assignment” is uniquely separate to any physician determined diagnosis or symptomology.
- Level 1-3 may only be reported as documented by providers. Coders may not use laboratory findings to seek or report levels.
- If hypoglycemia levels change throughout admission and/or there are scenarios with multiple levels*:
  - Report Hypoglycemia level upon admission, if followed by decline and resolution, one code is assigned.
  - If hypoglycemia is erratic and worsening (higher) levels are reported/documented during stay, two separate codes should be assigned: One code for the hypoglycemic level on admission and a second code for the highest hypoglycemia level documented.

*Reference for multiple level code assignment: ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2023 Page 56 of 118.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CREATION OF THESE NEW CODES

- American Diabetes Association (ADA)
- American Association of Clinical Endocrinology (AACE)
- Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists (ADCES)
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF)
- The Endocrine Society

References:
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6608552/
https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/40/12/1622/36909/Standardizing-Clinically-Meaningful-Outcome
https://diabetes.org/healthy-living/medication-treatments/blood-glucose-testing-and-control/hypoglycemia
https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/40/12/1622/36909/Standardizing-Clinically-Meaningful-Outcome
https://www.uspharmacist.com/article/addressing-hypoglycemic-emergencies
https://www.ihsgonline.com/tools-for-healthcare-providers-researchers/

SUMMARY SLIDE

Questions?