

New Childhood Obesity ICD-10-CM Codes Partner Promotion Materials



Effective October 1, 2024, new ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for adult and childhood obesity are available. The new codes will help improve obesity care for patients of all ages.

Please use these partner promotion materials to share important information about the new ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for childhood obesity. Below find child obesity code resources for health care providers including a sample newsletter post, sample social media posts, images, tables, and fact sheet. Please adapt and use these resources to raise awareness about the new codes and the benefits they provide to providers and patients.

Table of Contents

- [Newsletter Post](#)
- [Social Media Posts](#)
- [Social Media Images](#)
- [ICD-10-CM Table](#)
- [Sample Fact Sheet](#)

Child Newsletter Post

New Childhood Obesity Codes Increase Accuracy and Available Treatment

Effective October 1, 2024, new ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for childhood obesity are available. The new codes provide the following benefits:

- **Improved accuracy** by providing a more precise way to classify obesity that reflect the latest guidelines and recommendations from professional organizations. This includes the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- **Improved coding** to allow more accurate claims data and address the under coding of obesity.
- **Enhanced usefulness of data** to improve understanding of medical costs associated with obesity.
- **More accurate and clinically relevant terms** to help reduce weight stigma and bias and create a more supportive environment for patients.

To increase accuracy and available treatment options for children and adolescents with obesity, use the new E-codes (E66.811, E66.812, and E66.813) together with the new childhood Z-codes.

New E-Codes	Obesity Severity Category	+ Childhood Z Codes (Pediatric BMI)	Corresponding BMI Age- and Gender-specific Percentiles
E66.811	Class 1 Obesity	Z68.54	95 th percentile to less than 120% of the 95 th percentile
E66.812	Class 2 Obesity	Z68.55	Greater than or equal to 120% of the 95 th percentile to less than 140% of the 95 th percentile
E66.813	Class 3 Obesity	Z68.56	Greater than or equal to 140% of the 95 th percentile

Note: E-Codes focus on documenting external causes of injuries to identify patterns for prevention. Z-Codes capture factors influencing health status or encounters beyond specific diseases or injuries.

Two Steps to Take Now

1. Start using the new E-codes and Z-codes in your practice beginning October 1, 2024.
2. Share the codes with your clinical, billing, and EHR staff.

If you'd like to learn more about the health impact of childhood obesity, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity>.

Child Social Media Posts

Digital resources for social media promotion of the new ICD-10 codes are below. Customize these messages as appropriate. Follow and tag CDC on Facebook at [@CDCEatWellBeActive](#) and X at [@CDC_DNPAO](#).

Facebook

New ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for childhood obesity will be available for use on October 1. The new E-codes and Z-codes can increase available treatment options for children with obesity. Other benefits include:

- Provide a more accurate way to classify obesity.
- Improve coding practice.
- Enhance the usefulness of data to gain a better understanding of medical costs associated with obesity.
- Help reduce stigma and bias by using clinically relevant terms.

For more information: (INSERT OWN LINK)

X (formerly known as Twitter)

New ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for childhood obesity are available for use Oct 1. These E-codes can increase available treatment options for children with obesity. They also improve classification accuracy, coding practice, data usefulness & more. #ObesityCodes (INSERT OWN BIT.LY LINK)

LinkedIn

New ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for childhood obesity are available for use beginning October 1. These new E-codes and Z-codes can increase available treatment options for children with obesity and align with the recommendations from professional organizations. This includes the American Academy of Pediatrics. Both patients and providers will benefit from the new codes. They can provide:

- More precise classification of obesity.
- Improved obesity coding for claims data.
- Enhanced understanding of medical costs associated with obesity.

By using clinically accurate terms such as “Class 3 Obesity” instead of “morbid obesity due to excess calories,” providers can create a more supportive environment for patients with obesity. #ObesityCodes

For more information: (INSERT OWN LINK)

Person-First Language

CDC encourages the use of person-first language when discussing obesity and other chronic diseases. For example say “children with obesity” rather than “obese children.” Read more about [People-First Language for Obesity](#) and [Weight Bias and Stigma](#).

Child Social Media Images

Use these images alongside the sample social media posts provided or in your own customized posts.

Social media graphics are available for Facebook, X, and LinkedIn. These high-quality images can be [downloaded](#).



Child ICD-10-CM Table

E Codes	Obesity Severity Category	Z code (Pediatric BMI)	Corresponding BMI Percentiles
E66.811	Class 1 Obesity	Z68.54	95th percentile to less than 120% of the 95th percentile.
E66.812	Class 2 Obesity	Z68.55	Greater than or equal to 120% of the 95th percentile to less than 140% of the 95th percentile.
E66.813	Class 3 Obesity	Z68.56	Greater than or equal to 140% of the 95th percentile.

Sample Child Fact Sheet

New ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes for Childhood Obesity

Summary: Effective October 1, 2024, new ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for adult and childhood obesity are available to use. ICD-10-CM codes are used to classify and diagnose disease processes and for disease management and billing purposes, as well as health services research.

The new codes represent a significant advancement in the accurate coding of obesity severity and align with the latest recommendations from professional societies, including the American Academy of Pediatrics. The new codes aim to improve obesity care for patients of all ages.

How the New Codes Help Providers and Patients

- **Improve Accuracy:** The previous ICD-10-CM codes did not accurately capture the different levels of obesity severity. The new codes provide a more precise way to classify obesity and reflect the latest guidelines and recommendations from professional societies.
- **Improve Coding Practice:** Obesity is currently under-coded in claims data. The new codes are intended to improve coding practices and the utility of claims data.
- **Enhance the Usefulness of Data:** The improved coding will improve understanding of the health care burden and medical expenditures associated with obesity and facilitate the identification of, and billing for, obesity in children.
- **Help Reduce Stigma and Bias:** Health care providers can play a role in reducing stigma by using accurate and clinically relevant terms. An example of this is using "Class 3 Obesity" instead of "morbid obesity due to excess calories." This helps create a more supportive environment for patients.

How to Use the New Codes

To increase accuracy and available treatment options for children and adolescents with obesity, use the new E-codes (E66.811, E66.812, and E66.813) together with the new childhood Z-codes (Z68.54, Z68.55, and Z68.56).

New E-Codes	Obesity Severity Category	+ Childhood Z Codes (Pediatric BMI)	Corresponding BMI Age- and Gender-specific Percentiles
E66.811	Class 1 Obesity	Z68.54	95 th percentile to less than 120% of the 95 th percentile
E66.812	Class 2 Obesity	Z68.55	Greater than or equal to 120% of the 95 th percentile to less than 140% of the 95 th percentile
E66.813	Class 3 Obesity	Z68.56	Greater than or equal to 140% of the 95 th percentile

Note: E-codes focus on documenting external causes of diseases to identify patterns for prevention. Z-codes capture factors influencing health status or encounters beyond specific diseases.

Next Steps for Providers

1. **Update Coding Practices:** Use the new Z-codes in combination with the new E-codes, in place of the older E-codes (replace E66.01, E66.09, E66.8, E66.0). Familiarize yourself with the new codes and ensure your Electronic Health Record (EHR) system is updated.
2. **Share With Your Team:** Share this information with your billing department and clinical staff.
3. **Talk to Your Patients:** Help reduce stigma and bias by using clinically relevant terms with your patients in conversations about growth and excess weight. Consider which treatment plans and resources can best support your patients according to their individual needs.

Additional Resources

CDC Links:

- [Extended BMI-for-age Growth Charts](#)
- [About obesity](#) page, which includes data maps, consequences of obesity, risk factors, and more.
- [Childhood obesity facts.](#)
- [Screening for child obesity.](#)
- [Health care strategies for child obesity.](#)
- [Family Healthy Weight Programs.](#)
- [ICD-10-CM](#)—search the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification for codes to classify medical diagnoses.

Other Resources:

- [Weight bias and stigma](#) (University of Connecticut's Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health)
- [Clinical Practice Guideline for the Evaluation and Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Obesity](#) (American Academy of Pediatrics)