

ASTHMA

When additional documentation clarification is needed in order to capture the severity of illness and code assignment for asthma, please consider the clinical presentation, workup and treatment for the patient and exercise your professional judgment accordingly.

Please clarify the type of asthma:

- **Mild intermittent asthma;** uncomplicated, or with acute exacerbation or with status asthmaticus (symptoms occur less than or equal to two times per week, night time flare ups occur twice per month, at most; otherwise patient is free of symptoms).
- **Mild persistent asthma;** uncomplicated, or with acute exacerbation or with status asthmaticus (symptoms occur more than two times per week or 2 nights per month).
- **Moderate persistent asthma;** uncomplicated, or with acute exacerbation or with status asthmaticus (daily – may restrict physical activity).
- **Severe persistent asthma;** uncomplicated, or with acute exacerbation or with status asthmaticus (throughout the day – frequent severe attacks that limit the ability to breathe).
- **Other and unspecified asthma;** with uncomplicated, or with acute exacerbation or with status asthmaticus.
- **Other asthma** such as exercise induced, or cough variant or other asthma.
- **Unable to clinically determine.**

The Documentation that affects DRG assignment is the specification of (acute) exacerbation or status asthmaticus, however as a result of the reclassification of diagnoses in ICD-10, the specificity of type related to this diagnosis is also required.

Please document the most appropriate and specific diagnosis in your progress note. If you are unable to clinically determine the level of severity of this condition, please document it as such.