

ICD-10-CM Coding for COVID-19 FY 2021

A new code was developed by the World Health Organization, code U07. 1, for COVID-19. The new code, U07.1, should be reported for confirmed cases and presumptive positive test results.

Chapter 22

Codes for special purposes (U00-U85)

Provisional assignment of new diseases of uncertain etiology or emergency use (U00-U49)

U07.1 COVID-19

Use **additional** code to identify pneumonia or other manifestations

Excludes1: coronavirus infection, unspecified (B34.2)
coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere (B97.2-)
pneumonia due to SARS-associated coronavirus (J12.81)

Coding Guidelines contained in Chapter 1:

Certain Infectious & Parasitic Diseases I.C.1.g

Download Guidelines https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/10cmguidelines-FY2021.pdf?fbclid=IwAR34L5vPlwhbRYv6AgCFxpZX_Gt42jgLAeMncAraBPEpaW8lcvEDPbH3uVw

I.C.1.g.1 Confirmed Cases - COVID-19 Test Positive – If test results are positive, code **U07.1** COVID-19.

I.C.1.g.1 Suspected Exposure COVID-19 - If the provider documents "suspected," "possible," "probable," or "inconclusive" COVID-19, do not assign code **U07.1**. For patients presenting with any signs/symptoms associated with COVID-19 (such as fever, etc.) but a definitive diagnosis has not been established, assign the appropriate code(s) for each of the presenting signs and symptoms such as:

- R05 Cough
- R06.02 Shortness of breath
- R50.9 Fever, unspecified

If a patient with signs/symptoms associated with COVID-19 also has an actual or suspected contact with or exposure to COVID-19 assign **Z20.828**, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases, **as an additional code**.

I.C.1.g.1.a Patient tests negative but provider documents COVID-19 – If test results are negative & the provider still documents COVID-19, the Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting for COVID-19, “Code only a confirmed diagnosis of the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as documented by the provider, documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result, or a presumptive positive COVID-19 test result. For a confirmed diagnosis, assign code **U07.1**, COVID-19. This is an exception to the hospital inpatient guideline Section II, H. In this context, “confirmation” does not require documentation of a positive test result for COVID-19; the provider’s documentation that the individual has COVID-19 is sufficient.

I.C.1.g.1.e Asymptomatic Individuals with actual or suspected exposure assign code **Z20.828**, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases.

I.C.1.g.1.e COVID-19 Possible Exposure Ruled Out – When patient is symptomatic and there is a possible exposure to COVID-19 and the patient tests negative or tests are inconclusive for COVID-19; code **Z20.828**, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases.

I.C.1.g.1.h Asymptomatic Individuals who Test Positive for COVID-19 - For asymptomatic individuals, who test positive for COVID-19, assign code **U07.1**, COVID-19. Although the individual is asymptomatic, the individual has tested positive and is considered to have the COVID-19 infection.

I.C.1.g.1.i Personal History of COVID-19 assign the code **Z86.19**, Personal history of other infectious and parasitic disease.

I.C.1.g.1.i COVID-19 Confirmed Patient now tests negative – Assign an additional code of **Z86.19**, Personal history of other infectious and parasitic diseases. This is no specific timeframe for when a personal history code is assigned.

Sequencing: When COVID-19 meets the definition of a principal diagnosis, code U07.1, COVID-19, should be sequenced first, and followed by the appropriate codes for associated manifestations.

I.C.1.g.1.b Sequencing of Codes

When a patient experiences a respiratory related condition confirmed as due to COVID-19, code the U07.1 code followed by the respiratory manifestation.

Example 1: Lower respiratory infection due to

U07.1 COVID-19

J22, Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection

Example 2: Pneumonia due to

U07.1 COVID-19

J12.89, Other viral pneumonia

Example 3: Acute bronchitis due to

U07.1 COVID-19

J20.8, Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms

I.C.1.g.1.d Coding Signs & Symptoms Coding with COVID – Since COVID is primarily a respiratory condition; the coder would not code respiratory symptoms (SOB, cough) however assign the code for any non-respiratory symptoms (GI issues, venous insufficiency, dermatologic issues) as additional codes.

Obstetrics For information on COVID infection for pregnancy, childbirth & puerperium please see official guidelines, Chapter 15.

Newborns For information on COVID infection in Newborn please see official guideline, Chapter 16.