



Guidelines for coding Cause of Injury and Etiology of Injury (E-codes)

Place of injury codes (E849.0 - E849.9)

Use with any primary E-Code to denote the *PLACE* where the accident or poisoning occurred.

Should always be secondary e-code, never primary.

Late effects of injury (E929, E969, E989)

This category is to be used to indicate circumstances classifiable as the cause of death or disability from late effects related to an injury. The "late effects" include conditions reported as such, or *occurring as sequelae one year or more after injury* purposely inflicted by another person or injuries where intention is undetermined (see ICD9-CM, volume 1 for examples).

The TBIMS inclusion criteria specifies that participants present to the Model System ED with injuries occurring within 24 hours of admission. Therefore, all cases with a late effect e-code listed as primary should be reviewed to assure that the injury is truly new and not pre-existing. If the current admission is due to a pre-existing TBI, this case does not fit the TBIMS inclusion criteria and should be excluded from the study.

Misc. Coding Guidelines

Cause of injury should correspond with the primary e-code and both codes should correspond with the narrative documented in the medical chart (history and physical) pay special attention to description of injured person (ie passenger, driver, pedal cyclist, etc.) - the 4th digit of the e-code corresponds to the location/identification of the injured person if motor vehicle, motorcycle, pedestrian, or bicycle injury

888 (fall) is a valid e-code. Don't use 888 as "not applicable" (88888 = not applicable). 88888 should NEVER be the primary e-code, but can be the secondary code.

Data collector should always know cause of TBI (needed to determine study inclusion), therefore cause and e-codes should never be system missing, unknown or missing. E-code can be assigned by data collector if medical record personnel unavailable.

The following e-codes should rarely, if ever, be the primary e-code. These codes should be reviewed and validated prior to data entry:

accidental poisoning by drugs, medicinal substances (E850-E858);
accidental poisoning by other solid and liquid substances, gases, and vapors (E860-E869);
misadventures to patients during surgical and medical care (E870-E876); surgical and medical procedures as the cause of abnormal reaction of patient or later complication, without mention of misadventure at the time of the procedure (E878-879);
accidents caused by fire and flames (E890-E899);
accidents due to natural and environmental factors (E900-E909 except 906.8, 906.9, 907);
accidents caused by submersion, suffocation, and foreign bodies (E910-E915); assault by corrosive or caustic substance, except poisoning (E961); assault by poisoning (E962), assault by hanging and strangulation (E963), assault by submersion -drowning (E964), and assault by hot liquid (E968.3), and injuries undetermined whether accidentally or purposely inflicted (E980-E984)