

# WaPE

## VERIFYING A POTENTIAL EXPOSURE

*Coding of Vaping Related Conditions*

Tim Keough, VP HBS | Carole Liebner, Director HIM Education

Source: NEW JERSEY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
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# EVALI

- Electronic cigarette (vaping) product use associated lung injury
- As of November 5, 2019, 2,051 cases of e-cigarette, or vaping, product use associated lung injury (EVALI) have been reported to CDC from 49 states (all except Alaska), the District of Columbia, and 1 U.S. territory.
  - Thirty-nine deaths have been confirmed in 24 states and the District of Columbia (as of November 5, 2019).

[https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/severe-lung-disease.html#latest-outbreak-information](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/severe-lung-disease.html#latest-outbreak-information)

# Symptoms of EVALI

- EVALI can cause symptoms that resemble those of pneumonia or the flu, the CDC warns, including the following:
  - Coughing
  - Chest pain
  - Shortness of breath
  - Abdominal pain
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Weight loss

# ICD-10-CM Coding Guidance

- If documentation supports acute lung injury and a specified condition, code to that condition.
- If documentation supports acute lung injury but without identifying a specific respiratory condition, assign the code for unspecified respiratory condition due to chemicals, gases, fumes, and vapors.
- If documentation does not support a lung injury, and the patients present with any signs/symptoms, assign the appropriate code or codes for each of the presenting signs and symptoms.
- For vaping of nicotine, the code for nicotine dependence, other tobacco product, F17.29-, should be assigned as an additional code to show the relationship between the illness and the vaping. There is not a specific code for vaping and there is guidance in place for use of this code.

[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/Vapingcodingguidance2019\\_10\\_17\\_2019.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/Vapingcodingguidance2019_10_17_2019.pdf)

# Documentation Requirements

- REMEMBER: TO CODE A RESPIRATORY CONDITION CAUSED BY CHEMICAL, GASES, FUMES OR VAPORS, THE DOCUMENTATION *MUST INDICATE* THAT THE CONDITION WAS RELATED TO VAPING.
- The fact that a patient has a condition and vapes is not enough to code it as such. A cause and effect relationship must be documented by the provider.

# Codes for EVALI

- **J68.0:** Bronchitis and pneumonitis due to chemicals, gases, fumes and vapors; includes chemical pneumonitis
- **J69.1:** Pneumonitis due to inhalation of oils and essences; includes lipoid pneumonia
- **J80:** Acute respiratory distress syndrome
- **J82:** Pulmonary eosinophilia, not elsewhere classified
- **J84.114:** Acute interstitial pneumonitis
- **J84.89:** Other specified interstitial pulmonary disease
- **J68.9:** Unspecified respiratory condition due to chemicals, gases, fumes, and vapors

# Coding Clinic Guidance

- Use of Electronic Cigarettes and Smoking Cessation
  - Coding Clinic, Second Quarter 2017: Page 28



# Substance Use, Abuse and Dependence Guidelines

When the provider documentation refers to use, abuse and dependence of the same substance, only one code should be assigned to identify the pattern of use based on the following hierarchy:

- If both use and abuse are documented, assign only the code for abuse
- If both abuse and dependence are documented, assign only the code for dependence
- If use, abuse and dependence are all documented, assign only the code for dependence
- If both use and dependence are documented, assign only the code for dependence.

Specifically, for vaping of nicotine, assign code:

F17.29-, Nicotine dependence, other tobacco products. Electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) are non-combustible tobacco products.



# Toxic Effects/Poisoning

## TOXIC EFFECTS

- The end result of harmful substances ingested or coming into contact with a person are classified as toxic effects.

## POISONING

- The improper use of a medication or illegal substance are classified as a poisoning.
  - overdose
  - wrong substance given
  - wrong substance taken in error
  - wrong route of administration

# ICD Coding: Beyond Reimbursement

- Measures the quality, safety, and effectiveness of care
- Conducting research, epidemiological studies, and clinical trials
- Setting health policy
- Monitoring resource utilization
- Preventing and detecting healthcare fraud and abuse
- Tracking public health and risks

# Thank you!

Tim Keough / Carole Liebner  
NJHA Healthcare Business Solutions  
Health Information Services

609-936-2200