

## EPIC CHARTING TIPS FOR H&P

### 1. Document specific reason when “History limited/not obtainable

- Examples: History limited due to AMS, not cooperating, severe exacerbation of COPD, clinical condition, patient poor historian and no other reliable sources are available, step parent/ caregiver has limited knowledge of non-verbal child.”
- We cannot defend history limited due to language barrier as hospitals have access to interpreter’s 24/7.  
We cannot defend history limited due to age limitations, pre-verbal, non-verbal related to children when you have a surrogate or parent that knows the child’s history. If a caregiver/surrogate brings the child to the ED that has limited knowledge of the child document “History limited as grandmother/step parent/social worker has limited knowledge of child’s history.”

### 2. 4 HPI elements required for our highest visit levels 99284 and 99285.

- We cannot use any nurse triage recorded/copied into the HPI.
- Don’t forget to include Duration/Onset or Severity when injury related.
- Detailed HPI reminders available upon request.
- HPI Elements: Location-Duration-Timing-Quality-Severity-Context-Mod Factors -Associated Signs & Symptoms.

### 3. ROS: 99285 requires 10 individual ROS or “All other systems reviewed and are negative” or “All systems otherwise negative except as recorded above” after documenting the patients’ pertinent positives and negative responses in the HPI/ROS is compliant.

- Recognized 14 individual ROS are: Const-Eyes-ENMT-CV-Resp-GI-GU-MS-Skin-Hema/Lymph-Endo-Allergic/Immuno-Psych-Neuro.

### 4. Populate/Document Allergies within the History Portion of the chart.

- We may give credit as Immuno for ROS or Past History when not documented in other areas of the history.

### 5. Routinely document Past medical/surgical history PLUS either Social or Family history.

- Past, Family or Social “not on file is” not acceptable as having asked the patient/caregiver the question.
- “NOT ON FILE” recorded in chart: Ask the patient their Past plus family or social and free text it in chart.
- Negative is appropriate documentation when the patient/caregiver responds there is none and defensible as having asked the question.
- Make sure social history is age appropriate. If social history is non-smoker we may not be able to defend as age appropriate for child/infant.
- Children social histories: lives with mom/dad/both parents, in school/daycare, exposed to second hand smoke.

6. **8 organ system exam required for 99285; 3 organ system exam for 99284; 2 organ system exam for 99282 and 99283 and 1 organ system/body area for 99281.**

- Document Nursing notes and vitals reviewed at the beginning or end of each physical exam. If needed we may capture any additional ROS or PFSH if not document in the physicians/MLP medical record.
- The 12 recognized organ exam systems are: Constitutional-Eyes-ENMT-CV-Resp-GI-GU-MS-Lymph-Skin-Neuro-Psych
- If the patients' mood and affect is normal or thought content normal we may count as Psych.
- Awake, alert and oriented x1, 2, 3, 4 may be counted as psych or neuro. This may be documented in Constitutional or as a separate header or within the physical exam.
- Note Eyes are separate form ENMT.
- Any one finding satisfies ENMT. For example: dry/moist mucous membranes or purulent nasal drainage.