

Weekly tips from ERG documentation committee to improve our documentation under the new 2023 CMS Guidelines – Week 6

Our charts are now coded based on three categories

1. Problem
2. Data
3. Risk

- **Social Determinants of Health:**

- Anything that *could limit a patient's access* to care or medications.

- Homelessness
- Drug Abuse
- Lack of insurance
- Transportation issues
- Social support – lives alone/no family in town
- Access to cell phone
- Availability of community-based resources
- **language barrier is NOT considered

- **Example:**

- Patient's care has been significantly impacted as he is currently unemployed without insurance, will voucher medications and attempt to get patient follow up in a free medical clinic.

While social determinants of health is used for coding, it is also important from a population surveillance perspective.

The codes used for social determinants of health can be used at a state and federal level to impact care to communities in need.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any of the documentation committee with any questions/comments.

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