

# 2023 E/M Updates - E/M continues to get refined, are you ready for the changes?

## All you need to know

- The American Medical Association (AMA) has updated CPT Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes and guidelines
- These changes are aimed at reducing documentation and administrative difficulties.
- Changes range from E/M level criteria, deletion of codes, revision of codes to introduction of new code.

*For instance, Hospital Observation Services have now been deleted.  
Yes, you got it right - Hospital Observation Services are now deleted.*

## » See What's Coming

Summary of Updates

Effective Date: Jan 1st, 2023

Evaluation and Management (E/M) Section Update Summary-2023		
Addition	Deletion	Revision
01	26	50

## » New Code

New code added for *prolonged service*

CPT	Description
99418	Prolonged inpatient or observation evaluation and management service(s) time with or without direct patient contact beyond the required time of the primary service when the primary service level has been selected using total time, each 15 minutes of total time (List separately in addition to the code of the inpatient and observation Evaluation and Management service)

## Billing Guidelines

- Bill CPT 99418 only for the time that is 15 minutes beyond the time required to report the highest-level primary service.
- Bill only when the primary service has been selected using time alone as the leveling factor
- Do not bill 99418 for prolonged service of less than 15 minutes

## » Deleted Codes & Alternate Reporting

The below table illustrates the deleted codes with  
AMA recommended replacement codes

Deleted Codes and Alternate Reporting		
E/M Category	Deleted Codes	AMA Recommended Replacement Code(s)
Observation care discharge day management	99217	99238,99239
Initial observation care	99218-99220	99221-99223
Subsequent observation care	99224-99226	99231-99233
Office consultation; Level 1	99241	99242
Office consultation; Level 1	99251	99252
Annual nursing facility assessment	99318	99307 - 99310
Domiciliary or rest home visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient	99324-99328	99341, 99342, 99344, 99345
Domiciliary or rest home visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient	99334-99337	99347, 99348, 99349, 99350
Domiciliary, Rest Home (e.g.- Assisted Living Facility), or Home Care Plan Oversight Services	99339, 99340	99437, 99491 or 99424, 99425
Home or Residence Services	99343	99341, 99342, 99344, 99345
Prolonged Services	99354-99355	99417
Prolonged Services	99356-99357	99418

## » New E&M Guidelines

### History & Physical examination

- E/M codes that have various levels of services include a medically appropriate history and/or physical examination, when performed.
- The nature and extent of the history and/or physical examination are determined by the treating physician or any other qualified health care professional reporting the Service.
- The extent of history and physical examination is not an element in the selection of the level of these E/M service codes.

### Time

- When time is used as a factor for reporting E/M services codes, the time defined in the service descriptors is used for selecting the appropriate level of services.
- The E/M services for which these guidelines apply require a face-to-face encounter with the physician or any other qualified health care professional and the patient and/or family/caregiver.
- Time is not a descriptive component for the emergency department levels of E/M services.

## » Revised Codes

Based of the above guidelines, the following codes have  
revision on description and guidelines

Revised Codes	
E/M Category	Codes
Hospital Inpatient and Observation Care Services	99221-99223, 99231-99239
Consultations	99242-99245, 99252-99255
Emergency Department Services	99281-99285
Nursing Facility Services	99304-99310, 99315, 99316
Home or Residence Services	99341, 99342, 99344, 99345, 99347-99350
Prolonged Services	99417
Interprofessional telephone / Internet / electronic health record assessment and management	99446-99451
Assessment of and care planning for a patient with cognitive impairment	99483
Transitional care management services	99495,99496

🌟 Don't miss these updates, familiarize yourself today with the changes now, and ease your way into the 2023 E/M coding guidelines ... Stay tuned to more articles from us!

### References:

CPT® Evaluation and Management (E/M) Code and Guideline Changes | AMA