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## Coding Tips

This is one in a series of tip sheets focusing on accurate coding for specific conditions.

## COAGULOPATHY

Coagulopathy can be challenging for coding professionals, specifically for patients with a current bleed being treated with an anticoagulant or antithrombotic for a separately diagnosed condition.

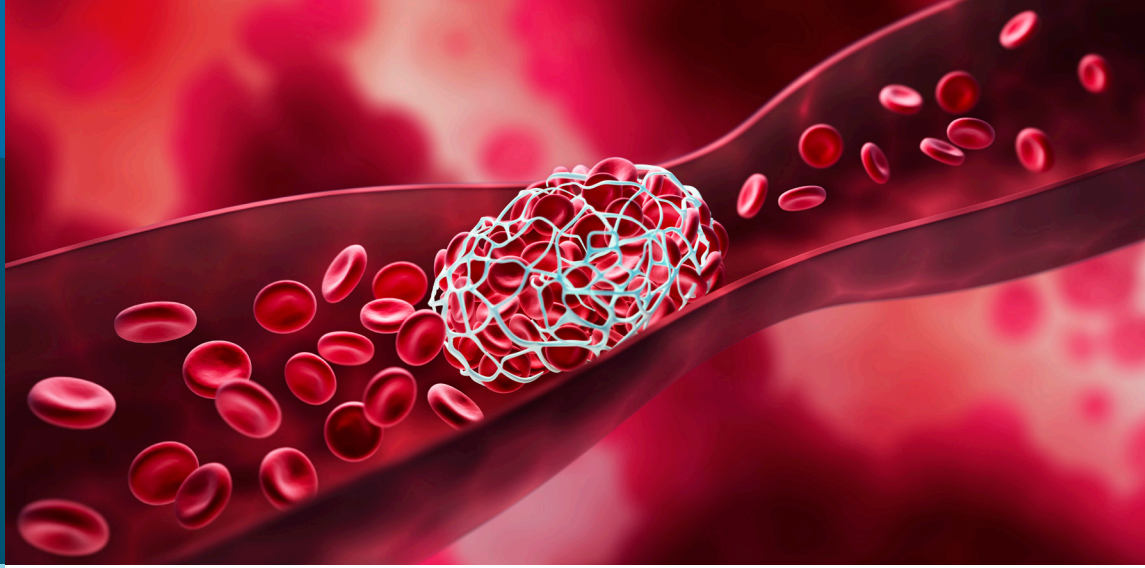
The appropriate ICD-10-CM code for the above scenario would be D68.32, hemorrhagic disorder due to extrinsic circulating anticoagulants, along with the appropriate adverse effect code for the drug.\* Support is in the inclusion terms for code D68.32, which state "drug-induced hemorrhagic disorder."

Most codes in category D68 (other coagulation defects) are generally assigned for hemorrhagic disorders or coagulation defects. Code D68.32 is unique to this category: It's the only code pertaining to extrinsic factors, relating to a process within the body due to provocation, specifically anticoagulants.

Anticoagulant therapies are divided into four classes, depending on the mechanism of action:

- Vitamin K antagonists
  - Warfarin (Coumadin, Jantoven)
- Low molecular weight heparins and heparin
  - Enoxaparin (Lovenox)
  - Dalteparin (Fragmin)
- Thrombin inhibitors
  - Bivalirudin (Angiomax)
  - Argatroban (Acova)
  - Dabigatran (Pradaxa)
  - Antithrombin III (Thrombate III)
- Factor Xa inhibitors
  - Apixaban (Eliquis)
  - Fondaparinux (Arixtra)
  - Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
  - Edoxaban (Savaysa)

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Code D68.32 can't be assigned to any patient on an anticoagulant with a prothrombin time and international normalized ratio or partial thromboplastin time that's outside the therapeutic range. This code description refers to a "hemorrhagic disorder" which, according to the AHA Coding Clinic, includes bleeding such as:

- Hemoptysis
- Hematuria
- Hematemesis
- Hematochezia

In addition, an inclusion term for D68.32 also includes hyperheparinemia, or excessive heparin in the blood.

Provider documentation must support the causal relationship between the bleed and the anticoagulation therapy. The AHA Coding Clinic guidance notes that, "an increased risk for bleeding is a side effect associated with anticoagulant therapy. The adverse effect code is assigned for bleeding resulting from an anticoagulant that is properly administered." Code D68.32 includes a "use additional code" note to remind us to code the adverse effect (if applicable) to identify which drug the patient is taking, and thus causing the condition.

*\*2016 AHA Coding Clinic, first quarter.*

**Questions?** Contact Blue Cross VT Risk Adjustment at [riskadjustment@bcbsvt.com](mailto:riskadjustment@bcbsvt.com) or at **(802)-371-3540**.

ICD-10-CM diagnostic codes and the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting are subject to change. It's the responsibility of the provider to ensure that current ICD-10-CM diagnostic codes and the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting are reviewed prior to the submission of claims.

Keep in mind that none of the information included in this document is intended to be legal advice and, as such, it remains the provider's responsibility to ensure that all the coding and documentation are done in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.