

## Updated Coding of ME/CFS in the US ICD-10-CM

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Effective October 1, 2022, updates to the US ICD-10-CM will enable tracking of people with ME/CFS, including those who develop the disease following COVID. These updates are specific to the ICD-10-CM, the US version of the International Classification of Diseases. They are the result of [a proposal](#) from ME/CFS organizations and subsequent [recommendations](#) by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) discussed at NCHS' September 2021 ICD-10-CM meeting. The announcement of the release of the updated ICD-10-CM is [here](#) and the updated ICD-10-CM files are [here](#) (choose the tabular/index file).

The main ICD-10-CM changes for ME/CFS, CFS, and postviral fatigue syndrome include:

- Addition of the term ME/CFS
- Removal of the word "benign" from the term "myalgic encephalomyelitis"
- Expansion of the G93.3 title from "postviral fatigue syndrome" to "postviral and related fatigue syndromes" to encompass both viral and non-viral causes
- Addition of subcodes under G93.3
- Deletion of the term "chronic fatigue syndrome, NOS" from R53.82 and addition of the term "chronic fatigue syndrome" to G93.32
- Addition of exclusions, used to indicate where two disease codes should not be used at the same time
- Addition of a note to direct a coder to also use code U09.9 for post-COVID condition when appropriate

The revised tabular listing for ICD-10-CM for these terms is:

### **G93.3 Postviral and related fatigue syndromes**

Use additional code, if applicable, for post COVID-19 condition, unspecified (U09.9)

Excludes1: chronic fatigue syndrome NOS (R53.82) **May be an error. See note 1 below**  
neurasthenia (F48.8)

**G93.31** Postviral fatigue syndrome

**G93.32** Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome

Chronic fatigue syndrome

ME/CFS

Myalgic encephalomyelitis

**G93.39** Other post infection and related fatigue syndromes

### **R53.82 Chronic fatigue, unspecified**

Excludes1: chronic fatigue syndrome (G93.32)  
myalgic encephalomyelitis (G93.32)  
post infection and related fatigue syndromes (G93.39) **See note 2 below**  
postviral fatigue syndrome (G93.31)

In addition to the main tabular file, the ICD-10-CM also includes a secondary index file with these terms:

- SEID (systemic exertion intolerance disease) with a code of G93.32
- Akureyri's disease; Iceland disease; Neuromyasthenia (epidemic) (postinfectious); and postbacterial fatigue syndrome, all with a code of G93.39

**Note:** 1) At NCHS' September 2021 meeting, this was presented as an exclusion for "chronic fatigue, unspecified (R53.82)." Specifying this as "chronic fatigue syndrome, NOS" appears to be an error. 2) To check if this exclusion should be listed as "Other post infection and related fatigue syndromes." NCHS has been contacted on both.

For questions and comments, contact Mary Dimmock at [medfeb@yahoo.com](mailto:medfeb@yahoo.com)  
Additional background on the coding issue and its impact is available [here](#).