

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS RELATED TO THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM AND ABDOMEN

The following are important documentation tips and strategies for this disease/condition as required by the specificity needed in ICD-10:

- State symptoms such as abdominal pain, tenderness, rigidity, swelling, masses, and lumps.
 - *Identify the region or quadrant of the abdomen where the symptom resides (e.g., right upper quadrant, left lower quadrant, epigastric, periumbilical, generalized, etc.).*
- Specify the phase of swallowing affected by dysphasia (e.g., oral, oropharyngeal, pharyngeal, pharyngoesophageal, etc.).
- Detail other dysphagias (e.g., neurogenic).
- Provide the underlying cause of ascites (e.g., malignancy, alcoholic cirrhosis, alcoholic hepatitis, chronic active hepatitis in toxic liver disease, etc.).