

## Angina Pectoris

Angina pectoris, or angina, is chest pain or discomfort caused when the heart muscle does not receive enough blood. It is usually perceived by the patient as a sensation of tightness, pressure, or squeezing in the chest. Generally, angina is an early manifestation of underlying heart problems such as coronary heart disease (CHD), also known as coronary artery disease (CAD), coronary microvascular disease (MDV), valvular insufficiency, or spasms of the coronary arteries.

Approximately 1 million people in the United States suffer from angina. Symptoms can be different for women and men and can vary depending on the type of angina the patient has.

### Types of Angina

- **Stable:** Pain lasts a few minutes and occurs in a pattern, such as during exercise or stress.
- **Unstable:** Pain can be stronger or last longer than stable angina and does not follow a pattern. Unstable angina is a medical emergency; the patient may need medical attention right away.
- **Microvascular:** Pain can be stronger or last longer than stable angina and can occur both during rest and after exercise.
- **Vasospastic or Variant:** Pain is strong and happens during rest, usually between midnight and early morning.
- **Refractory:** Angina symptoms last for months.

### Common Symptoms



**BRAIN**  
LIGHTHEADEDNESS, DIZZINESS



**CHEST**  
DISCOMFORT, PRESSURE, AND PAIN



**LUNGS**  
SHORTNESS OF BREATH



**STOMACH**  
NAUSEA OR VOMIT



**SKIN**  
COLD SWEAT



**WHOLE BODY**  
FATIGUE

### Risk of Angina

Factors that affect the risk of getting angina include:

- Age
- Lifestyle habits (smoking tobacco, alcohol use, stress, unhealthy eating patterns)
- Environment or occupation (air pollution)
- Family history and genetics

### Treatment

The type of treatment is usually based on the type of angina and often includes:

- Identification of the underlying cause
- Cardiac procedures to open narrowed arteries
- Medication to help manage angina events and relieve pain; medications can be prescribed to help manage angina long-term by helping the heart beat slower, relax blood vessels, etc.
- Lifestyle changes including a healthy diet and increasing physical activity
- Cardiac rehabilitation

## Include in Physician Documentation

- The purpose of the encounter (e.g., follow-up visit for treatment and evaluation of)
- The type of angina (e.g., stable angina, refractory angina)
- The underlying cause (e.g., refractory angina due to coronary artery disease)
- Positive physical findings or indicators (e.g., chest pain, fatigue, pressure)
- The frequency, duration, and intensity of the angina episodes
- The impact of the symptoms on the patient's daily activities and factors that cause or exacerbate angina symptoms
- Each final diagnosis described to the highest level of specificity (e.g., angina pectoris due to coronary artery disease)
- A clear and concise treatment plan

Do not use "history of" to describe angina that is active and ongoing. "History of" indicates that the patient no longer has the condition.

## Coding Angina

The ICD-10-CM coding manual chapter 9, Diseases of the Circulatory System, contains diagnoses related to angina. Angina is coded with I20.- codes. If a patient has both CAD and angina, use the appropriate combination code from category I25.- Chronic ischemic heart disease.

### I20.0 Unstable angina

Includes conditions:

- Accelerated angina
- Crescendo angina
- De novo effort angina
- Intermediate coronary syndrome
- Preinfarction angina
- Worsening effort angina

Do not assign diagnosis code I20.0 for a patient who also has CAD. Per ICD-10-CM guidelines, an assumed causal relationship exists between the two conditions unless otherwise documented as unrelated.

#### **Coronary artery disease with unstable angina**

Specify the vessel:

- Native coronary artery
- Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) - Autologous/non/autologous; vein/artery of transplanted heart

I25.1- Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery

I25.7- Atherosclerosis of coronary artery bypass graft(s) and coronary artery of transplanted heart with angina pectoris

### I20.1 Angina pectoris with documented spasm

Includes conditions:

- Angiospastic angina
- Prinzmetal angina
- Spasm-induced angina
- Variant angina

Do not assign diagnosis code I20.1 for a patient who also has CAD. Per ICD-10-CM guidelines, an assumed causal relationship exists between the two conditions unless otherwise documented as unrelated.

#### **Coronary artery disease with angina pectoris with documented spasm**

Specify the vessel:

- Native coronary artery
- CABG - Autologous/non/autologous; vein/artery of transplanted heart

I25.1- Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery

I25.7- Atherosclerosis of coronary artery bypass graft(s) and coronary artery of transplanted heart with angina pectoris

## I20.2 Refractory angina pectoris

Do not assign diagnosis code I20.2 for a patient who also has CAD. Per ICD-10-CM guidelines, an assumed causal relationship exists between the two conditions unless otherwise documented as unrelated.

### **Coronary artery disease with refractory angina pectoris**

Specify the vessel:

- Native coronary artery
- CABG - Autologous/non/autologous; vein/artery of transplanted heart

I25.1- Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery

I25.7- Atherosclerosis of coronary artery bypass graft(s) and coronary artery of transplanted heart with angina pectoris

## I20.9 Angina pectoris, unspecified

Includes conditions:

- Angina NOS
- Anginal syndrome
- Cardiac angina
- Ischemic chest pain

Do not assign diagnosis code I20.9 for a patient who also has CAD. Per ICD-10-CM guidelines, an assumed causal relationship exists between the two conditions unless otherwise documented as unrelated.

### **Coronary artery disease with angina pectoris**

**Specify the vessel:**

- Native coronary artery
- CABG - Autologous/non/autologous; vein/artery of transplanted heart

I25.1- Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery

I25.7- Atherosclerosis of coronary artery bypass graft(s) and coronary artery of transplanted heart with angina pectoris

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## ICD-10-CM Updates for Fiscal Year 2024

### **New Subcategory**

I20.8- Other forms of angina pectoris

### **New Diagnosis Codes**

#### **I20.81 Angina pectoris with coronary microvascular dysfunction**

Includes conditions:

- Angina pectoris with coronary microvascular disease

#### **I20.89 Other forms of angina pectoris**

Includes conditions:

- Angina equivalent
- Angina of effort
- Coronary slow flow syndrome
- Stable angina
- Stenocardia

Do not assign diagnosis code from subcategory I20.8- for a patient who also has CAD. Per ICD-10-CM



guidelines, an assumed causal relationship exists between the two conditions unless otherwise documented as unrelated.

### **Coronary artery disease with other forms of angina pectoris**

Specify the vessel:

- Native coronary artery
- CABG - Autologous/non/autologous; vein/artery of transplanted heart

I25.1- Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery

I25.7- Atherosclerosis of coronary artery bypass graft(s) and coronary artery of transplanted heart with angina pectoris

## Resources

[Angina \(Chest Pain\) | American Heart Association](#)

[Angina \(Chest Pain\) - What Is Angina? | NHLBI, NIH](#)



[Other Conditions Related to Heart Disease | CDC.gov](#)

<https://www.CMS.gov/Medicare/Coding-Billing/ICD-10-Codes/2024-ICD-10-CM>

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- Deep vein thrombosis 
- Diabetes
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- Rheumatoid arthritis



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