Malnutrition

Malnutrition codes in ICD-10 allow for great detail to be reported.

Utilizing the nutrition assessment, BMI and other physical exam and diagnostic indicators, please specify the diagnosis of malnutrition by severity and/or form when possible.

Severity:

- Mild (first degree)
- Moderate (second degree)
- Severe (third degree)

**Documentation of a range of malnutrition such as “moderate to severe” will require clarification.**

Form:

- Kwashiorkor (rarely seen in the U.S)
- Protein Caloric
- Marasmus
- Other

In the absence of a formal diagnosis of malnutrition, documentation of a body mass index along with corresponding conditions such as underweight, cachexia, anorexia, etc..., can also convey a comorbid patient condition that may require treatment, evaluation or increased length of stay in the hospital.