



## NEW Childhood Obesity Provider Codes Fast Facts Sheet:

Childhood Obesity is a growing epidemic. It is of great importance that correct diagnostic coding is implemented when addressing overweight and obese patients.

New V-codes have been incorporated in the ICD-9 Clinical Modification Sixth Edition for 2007. These new codes, which specify BMI, will allow CalOptima to accurately identify obese and overweight children in order to effectively provide childhood obesity prevention and treatment services. BMI pediatric codes are for use for persons age 2-20 years old. The percentiles are based on the growth charts published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Primary ICD9 diagnosis codes for overweight and obesity fall into the 278.0 category and are required to be coded to the 5<sup>th</sup> digit. Acceptable codes are 278.00, 278.01 and 278.02.

Primary diagnosis codes should be supplemented with a Secondary diagnosis code to identify Body Mass Index, using the Pediatric Body Mass Index V-codes:

- a. The supplemental classification V-codes are:
  - V85.51 **Body Mass Index, pediatric, less than 5<sup>th</sup> percentile for age**
  - V85.52 **Body Mass Index, pediatric, 5<sup>th</sup> percentile to less than 85<sup>th</sup> percentile for age**
  - V85.53 **Body Mass Index, pediatric, 85<sup>th</sup> percentile to less than 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for age**
  - V85.54 **Body Mass Index, pediatric, greater than or equal to 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for age**

V-codes V85.0 – V85.4 are BMI adult codes for use for persons over 20 years old and are **NOT** to be used for secondary diagnosis for pediatric patients.