

Useful abbreviations

EF = ejection fraction
LVSD = Left ventricular
systolic dysfunction
LV = Left
ventricle/ventricular
HF = Heart failure

4th Digit - Aetiology

Code the underlying cause for the HF as you normally would based on discharge information, remembering that there are many codes to select from, eg I50.0, I50.1, I50.9, and cardiomyopathy codes

Now, add
a 5th digit

5th Digit - Ejection Fraction

Does the discharge information include an **echo report**? If so, this should give you information to assign a 5th digit code! Tips on interpreting this below:

Reduced EF → add 'o'

LVSD
Left ventricular dysfunction
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction
Left ventricular impairment
Left ventricular systolic impairment
Reduced LV function
Reduced LV systolic function
Reduced systolic function
Impaired LV function
Impaired LV systolic function
Impaired systolic function

Preserved EF → add '1'

Preserved/normal LV function
Preserved systolic function
Preserved/Normal EF
Normal systolic function
Diastolic heart failure

EF Unspecified → add '9'

If there is no echo report included in the discharge information or any mention of the above terms, the unspecified 5th digit is your only option

Discharge information clearly states 'Heart failure'

Yes

No

Discharge information describes 'LVSD/left ventricular systolic dysfunction'

No

Yes

Code other conditions

Code as: R93.10