

# How to Choose the Right Code From the Canadian Emergency Department Diagnosis Shortlist

## Purpose

To help facilities determine the most appropriate diagnosis code from



- a) Many of the conditions on the list are grouped by body system. Whenever possible, select a code related to the appropriate body system.
- b) If the specific condition is not on the list, check whether the general codes at the end of certain body system groups apply (e.g., J989 Respiratory disorder, I99 CVS [cardiovascular system] disorder).
- c) There is a group of codes for diagnoses related to circumstances other than disease or injury (e.g., requesting a prescription refill). For these cases, review the codes beginning with the letter Z under “Contact with health services.”
- d) Refer to the table below to locate codes related to specific conditions.

	C or D under “Neoplasms”
	L under “Dermatologic diseases”
	M under “Diseases of the MSK (musculoskeletal) system and connective tissue”
	O under “Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium”
	P under “Conditions originating in the perinatal period”
	R under “Symptoms, signs and abnormal findings”