

ASCO®

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

Coding for Social Determinants of Health and G Codes

Rachael Willeford, CHONC

Senior Coverage and Reimbursement Specialist, American Society of Clinical Oncology

Carolinas Cancer Conference

August 4th, 2024

Disclosure

Rachael Willeford, CHONC

Rachael Willeford is a certified hematology/oncology coder employed by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). She has no relevant relationships to disclose. No artificial intelligence was used in the creation of this presentation.

Today's Learning Objectives

- Identify services that address health-related social needs.
- Recognize reporting requirements for patient navigation codes.
- Connect social determinants of health with ICD-10-CM codes.

What are social determinants of health (SDOH)?



Conditions of an individual's **living, learning, and working** environments that affect one's health risks and outcomes.¹



Recognized as **important predictors in clinical care** and positive conditions are associated with **improved patient outcomes and reduced costs.**²

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

Services Addressing Health-Related Social Needs

New Services in 2024



Community Health Integration (CHI): Address social determinants of health needs that significantly limit the ability to diagnose or treat problems.



Principal Illness Navigation (PIN): Services focused on a serious, high-risk illness by certified or trained auxiliary personnel.



Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessment: Administration of a standardized, evidence-based social determinants of health risk assessment tool.

Community Health Integration

Problem addressed at
evaluation/management
(E/M) visit

SDOH significantly limits
ability to diagnose/treat
problem

Activities are performed
by certified/trained
auxiliary personnel to
address SDOH.

Principal Illness Navigation (PIN)



Services focused on a serious, high-risk illness.



Personnel may include navigator or certified peer specialist.

Community Health Integration and Principal Illness Navigation Activities

Communication

Education

Coordination

Facilitation

Navigation

Care Planning

Referring for Services

Community Health Integration

- Facilitate access

Principal Illness Navigation

- Facilitate
- Refer

Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessment

Administration of a standardized, evidence-based SDOH assessment tool



**Food
Difficulties**



**Housing
Difficulties**



**Transportation
Difficulties**



**Utility
Difficulties**

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

Reporting Navigational Codes

Community Health Integration Reimbursement

Service	Reimbursement
<p>Community Health Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 60 minutes per calendar month ▪ Each additional 30 minutes per calendar month 	<p>G0019: \$80.56 G0022: \$50.26</p>

*Reimbursement reflects national amounts for the non-facility setting.⁴ Actual amounts will vary by location.
Date of service reporting: Reported per calendar month. No frequency limits.*

Principal Illness Navigation Reimbursement

Service	Reimbursement
<p>Principal Illness Navigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 60 minutes per calendar month ▪ Each additional 30 minutes per calendar month 	<p>G0023: \$80.56 G0024: \$50.26</p>

*Reimbursement reflects national amounts for the non-facility setting.⁴ Actual amounts will vary by location.
Date of service reporting: Reported per calendar month. No frequency limits.*

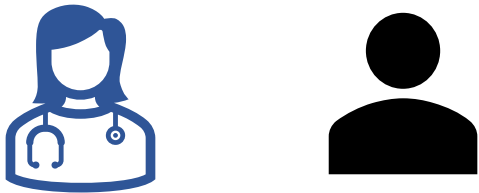
Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessment Reimbursement

Service	Reimbursement
<p>Administration of a standardized, evidence-based Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5-15 minutes, not more often than every 6 months 	<p>G0136: \$18.97</p>

*Reimbursement reflects national amounts for the non-facility setting.⁴ Actual amounts will vary by location.
Date of service reporting: Limited to once every 6 months.*

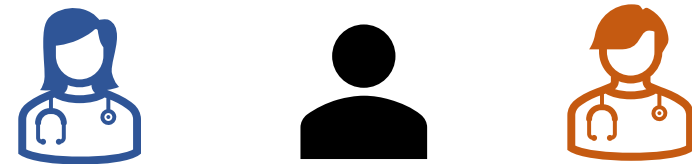
Reporting Restrictions

Community Health Integration



Only **one** clinician per beneficiary per calendar month³

Principal Illness Navigation



More than one clinician per beneficiary *if* different conditions⁵

Documentation

Community Health Integration

- ✓ Initiating visit identifying SDOH needs that significantly limit ability to treat problem and establishing treatment plan.
- ✓ SDOH needs recorded in the patient record.
- ✓ Time spent furnishing services addressing SDOH.
- ✓ Description of activities performed.
- ✓ Consent obtained.

Documentation

Principal Illness Navigation

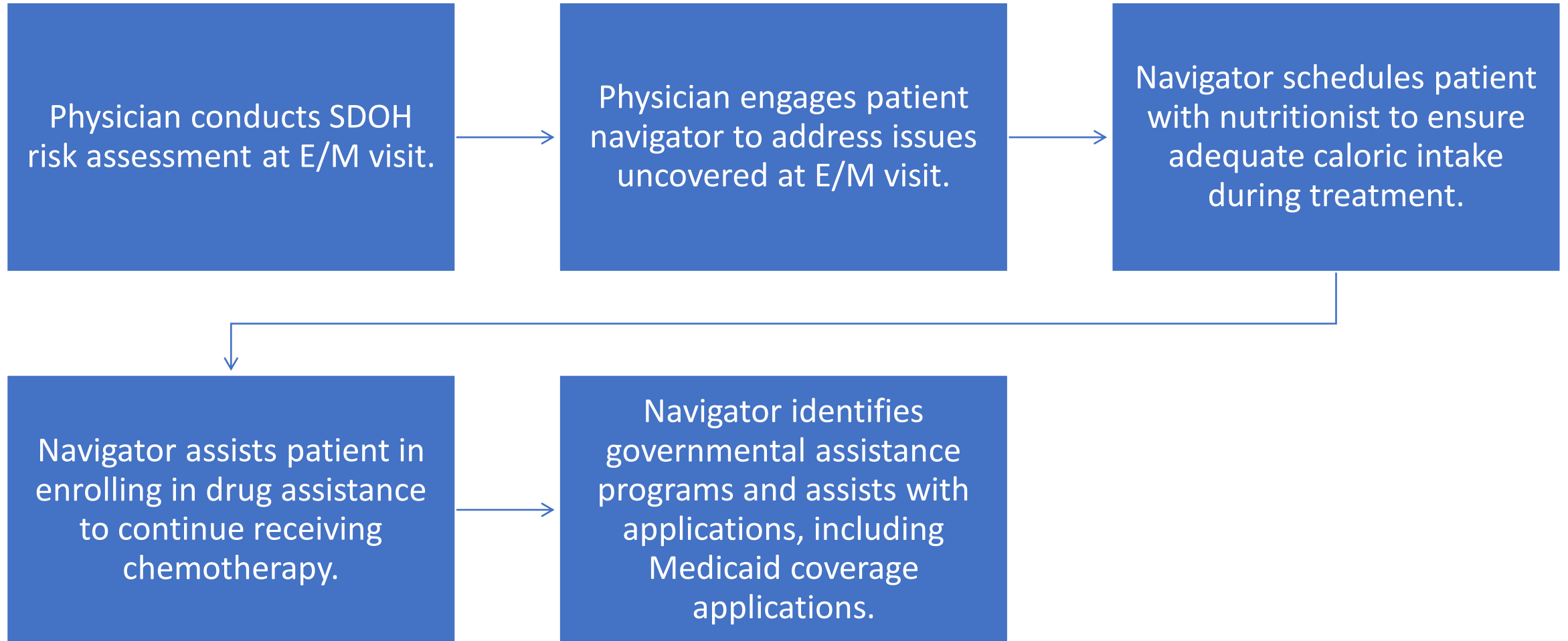
- ✓ Initiating visit identifying medical necessity for navigation services and establishes a treatment plan for problem.
- ✓ Identification of SDOH needs, if present.
- ✓ Time spent in relationship to the serious, high-risk illness.
- ✓ Description of activities performed in relation to the treatment plan.
- ✓ Consent obtained.

Documentation

SDOH Risk Assessment

- ✓ Associated E/M visit
- ✓ Identification of SDOH needs

Principal Illness Navigation Example



Reporting Navigation

Office Visit

- E/M (99202-99215)
- G0136 Administration of SDOH Risk Assessment

Patient Navigation during the calendar month

- G0023 Principal Illness Navigation, First 60 minutes
- G0024 Each additional 30 minutes

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

ICD-10-CM codes for Social Determinants of Health

What are ICD-10-CM Codes?



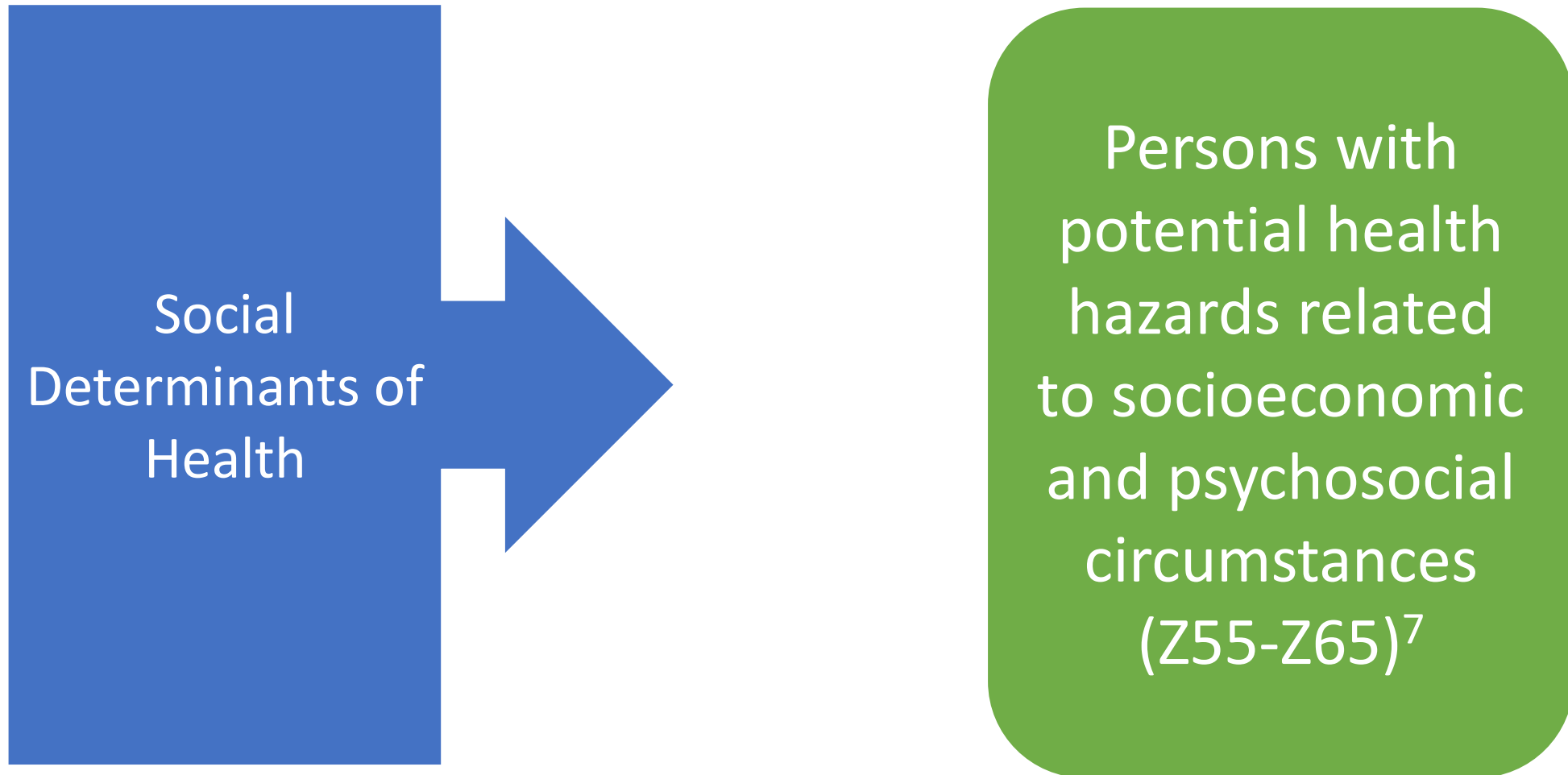
International Classification of
Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical
Modification



Classifies diagnoses and reason for
visits in all health care settings.

7

How are ICD-10-CM codes connected to SDOH?



Impact of Identifying Patients with SDOH



6

Z Code Utilization

Among **33.1** million total Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries in 2019, approximately **1.59%** had claims with Z codes.²

ICD-10-CM Z Codes for SDOH

Category	Category Description
Z55	Problems related to education and literacy
Z56	Problems related to employment and unemployment
Z57	Occupational exposure to risk factors
Z58	Problems related to physical environment
Z59	Problems related to housing and economic circumstances
Z60	Problems related to social environment
Z62	Problems related to upbringing
Z63	Other problems related to primary support group, including family circumstances
Z64	Problems related to certain psychosocial circumstances
Z65	Problems related to other psychosocial circumstances

Chapter 21- Factors Influencing Health Status and Contact with Health Services

Persons with potential health hazards related to socioeconomic and psychosocial circumstances (Z55-Z65)⁷

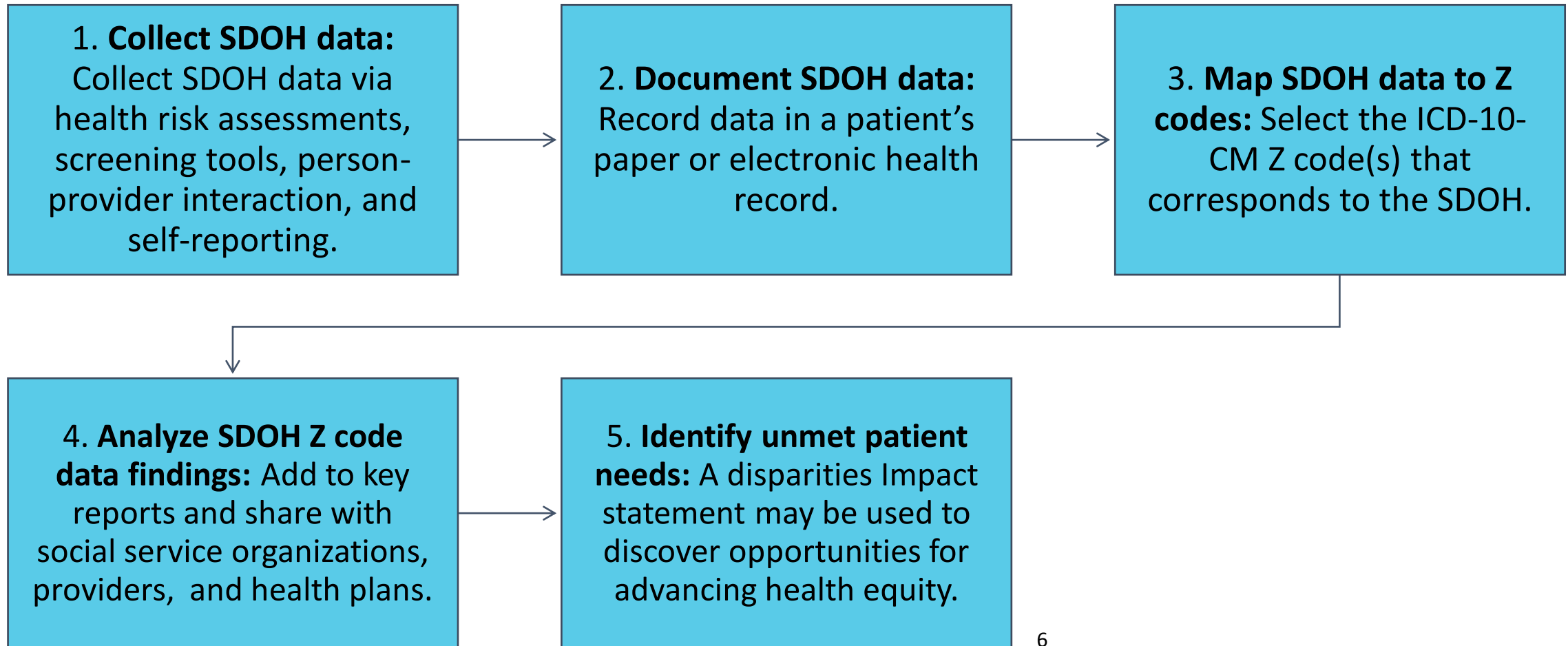
Z59 Problems related to housing and economic circumstance

Z59.00 Homelessness, unspecified
Z59.01 Sheltered homelessness
Z59.02 Unsheltered homelessness
Z59.10 Inadequate housing
Z59.11 Inadequate housing
temperature
Z59.12 Inadequate housing utilities
Z59.19 Other inadequate housing
Z59.2 Discord with neighbors
Z59.3 Problems related to living in
residential institution
Z59.4 Lack of adequate food
Z59.41 Food insecurity

**Z59.48 Other specified lack of
adequate food**
Z59.5 Extreme poverty
Z59.6 Low income
**Z59.7 Insufficient social insurance
and welfare support**
Z59.81 Housing instability, housed
Z59.811 Housing instability, housed,
with risk of homelessness
Z59.812 Housing instability, housed,
homelessness in past 12
months

Z59.819 Housing instability, housed
unspecified
Z59.82 Transportation insecurity
Z59.86 Financial insecurity
Z59.87 Material hardship
Z59.89 Other problems related to
housing and economic
circumstances
Z59.9 Problem related to housing
and economic circumstances,
unspecified

Connecting SDOH with Z Codes



6

Connecting SDOH to Z codes

Example

The patient indicates that they are experiencing significant stress regarding **medical expenses, covering rent, and unemployment.**

Connecting SDOH to Z Codes

Example

Practical Concerns	ICD-10-CM Z Codes: Persons with potential health hazards related to socioeconomic and psychosocial circumstances
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insurance ➤ Housing ➤ Work 	<p>Z59.7 Insufficient social insurance and welfare support</p> <p>Z59.81 Housing instability, housed</p> <p>Z56.0 Unemployment, unspecified</p>

7

ICD-10-CM Considerations

- Code to the highest level of specificity.
- Documentation may be from clinicians involved in care that are not the patient's provider.
- The SDOH Z codes may be the principal or first-listed diagnosis.
- Include other relevant diagnoses on the claim and in the medical record.⁷

Key Takeaways

1. Services that address health-related social needs were created to increase access to patient navigation.
2. Patient navigational services may be reimbursed with the CMS created G codes for services that address health-related social needs.
3. SDOH needs may be indicated by linking ICD-10-CM Z codes to performed services.

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

Resources

References

1. Social Determinants of Health. Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Social Determinants of Health. Accessed June 24, 2024. <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>
2. Utilization of Z Codes for Social Determinants of Health among Medicare Fee-For-Service Beneficiaries, 2019. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 2021. Accessed June 26, 2024. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/z-codes-data-highlight.pdf>
3. CY 2024 Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Changes to Part B Payment and Coverage Policies; Medicare Shared Savings Program Requirements; Medicare Advantage; Medicare and Medicaid Provider and Supplier Enrollment Policies; and Basic Health Program. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. November 16, 2023. 88 FR 78818. Accessed June 24, 2024. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-11-16/pdf/2023-24184.pdf>
4. Search the Physician Fee Schedule. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. Published April 2, 2024. Accessed June 26, 2024. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/physician-fee-schedule/search>
5. Health-Related Social Needs FAQ. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Accessed June 24, 2024. [Health-Related Social Needs FAQ \(cms.gov\)](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/physician-fee-schedule/search)
6. Using Z Codes: The Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data Journey to Better Outcomes. Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services. June 2023. Accessed June 24, 2024. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/zcodes-infographic.pdf>
7. International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), Table and Index, April 2024 Update. National Center for Health Statistics. December 29, 2023. Accessed June 24, 2024. [ftp.cdc.gov - /pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Publications/ICD10CM/2024-Update/](ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Publications/ICD10CM/2024-Update/)

ASCO Resources

[Care Management and Patient Navigation Services Comparison](#)

[Coding and Reporting Social Determinants of Health](#)

[Social Determinants of Health and Cancer Care: An ASCO Policy Statement | JCO Oncology Practice](#)

[Navigating a Path to Equity in Cancer Care: The Role of Patient Navigation | American Society of Clinical Oncology Educational Book \(ascopubs.org\)](#)

[From ASCO to Z Codes: What ASCO Members Must Know About Coding for Social Determinants of Health \(ascopubs.org\)](#)

[Social Determinants of Health and Disparities in Cancer Care for Black People in the United States | JCO Oncology Practice \(ascopubs.org\)](#)

[Health Disparities in Young Adults: A Direct Comparison of Distress and Unmet Needs Across Cancer Centers | JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics](#)